



A Weekly Journal of the Chemical and Drug Trades
and of
British Pharmacists throughout the Empire,
ESTABLISHED 1859.

The CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is the leading journal addressing the chemical and drug trades of the British Empire. It is adopted as an official journal by nineteen Chemists' Societies in Australia, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa and the West Indies, and its paid-in-advance circulation in Great Britain and all Countries having business relations with the British Empire is intrinsically and numerically unique.

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if intelligently and persistently pursued. There is little benefit to be gained from half-hearted and spasmodic efforts. Manufacturers and wholesalers connected with chemical industry, pharmacy, and the drug, perfumery, proprietary medicine, and toilet article businesses are among the best advertisers in the world. They fully recognise the business value of a striking announcement

In the Winter Issue

of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, to be published on January 28. Many are sending the publisher their instructions for

Insets

as they have found this method of publicity most profitable. Have you had a copy of the Publisher's "Winter Issue" circular? If not, write for one, and at the same time ask his advice about your own advertising.

THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST,
42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Summary of this Issue.

The more notable items only are dealt with.

Articles and Communications.

Some interesting new information regarding Java grass oils is epitomised on pp. 52-53.

The apparatus and method for taking melting-points by the U.S.P. are set forth on p. 53.

Company chemists find that the sale of drugs and medicines does not pay. See the article on p. 49.

Mr. R. C. Cowley objects to the alteration of B.P. mercury oleate for reasons which he sets forth on p. 52.

Our Information Department is proving of exceptional service to the trade, as is shown by the note on p. 50.

Continuing our comments on the German Pharmacopœia we contrast some of the factors with those of the B.P. The notes begin on p. 45.

A window-dressing expert describes some of the chemists' windows which he inspected in London during Christmastide. We also give photographs of Christmas exhibits (pp. 54-55).

We commence a series of episodes from a Scottish pharmacy which reflect the truth as regards counter-prescribing, although the writer is both humorous and ironical (p. 51).

The Potteries Magistrate finds that sweet spirit of nitre is not liable to decomposition, but evaporates (p. 40). We show, however, that it undoubtedly decomposes, and give facts to prove it (p. 49).

We comment upon the scheme for the division of the Minor examination and the curriculum for it proposed by a committee of the Pharmaceutical Council (p. 48). The text of the scheme is on p. 58.

Xrayser II. discusses, among other topics, the aspirations of unqualified dealers in poisons, the triumph of the teapot in France, taxes on commercial travellers, and unworthy pretenders to physic (p. 47).

The Week's News.

Mr. Freshfield Reynolds, of Gloucester, is the association president of this week. See p. 59.

Railways are beginning to refuse to collect goods above the ground floor of business premises (p. 35).

The Federation of Local Pharmaceutical Associations of Great Britain was wound up on Wednesday (p. 60).

A lady died in Scarborough from lead-poisoning, and an effort has been made to prove that the lead was in soda-water (p. 35).

Besides the Hanley spirit-of-nitre case already referred to, a case has been heard at Ludlow in which the chemist was ordered to pay costs (p. 40).

Business changes are exceptionally numerous this week, and they include the absorption of the business of Lorimer & Co., Ltd., by Marshalls, Ltd. (p. 44).

The principal business at the Pharmaceutical Council meeting on Wednesday was the Minor examination scheme. There was a difference of opinion as to the desirability of submitting it to local associations without guidance from the Council. It was decided to ask the Privy Council to inquire into how dispensing is done in doctors' surgeries (pp. 57-58).

Trade and Market Matters.

We summarise the principal features of the market for heavy chemicals in an article on page 61 of our Trade Report.

The United States Secretary of Agriculture has at last officially recognised that there is a demand for asafetida below the U.S.P. standard, and the importation of such is to be admitted under certain stringent conditions (p. 50).

BUSINESS in the chemical and drug markets has not yet been fully resumed, but the outlook is considered favourable. The chief alteration of the week is an advance in American peppermint oil and an active demand for Japanese. Refined slab camphor is firmer. Turpentine and cocoa-butter are dearer. Bergamot, buchu, and cubeb oils, hydroquinone and atropine, are easier (p. 61).

B

ENGLISH AND WELSH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Brovities.

In Bethnal Green during the past five weeks nine samples of glycerin and two of cream of tartar were analysed, and it was found necessary to caution a vendor of one sample of the cream who had unintentionally supplied another chemical.

Mr. Henry Jeffries, chemist, Guildford, has been entrusted with the supplying of the medicines, etc., to Mr. F. C. Selons, the well-known traveller and big-game hunter, who is shortly leaving England for the Bahr-el-Ghazal and Lado district of the Upper Nile.

Mr. Thomas Swales, druggists' sundries factor, was M.C. at the annual Christmas party of the Leeds Commercial Travellers' Association, held at the Hotel Metropole, Leeds, on New Year's Eve, when a company numbering about two hundred enjoyed a memorable gathering.

Mr. W. H. Lever, in addressing at Port Sunlight a large number of the employés of Lever Bros., Ltd., reviewed the year's work in connection with the co-partnership scheme, under which a second dividend of 10 per cent. has been paid to the co-partners as compared with $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., the first dividend.

In consequence of a destructive fire at a yacht-builder's premises at Gosport on December 23, 1910, the pharmacy of Mr. E. H. Smith, chemist and druggist, in the High Street were practically for the time being turned into a hospital for the treatment of burns. The local Press accords much praise to Mr. Smith for his services in alleviating the sufferings of the injured workers.

At Ipswich, on January 3, one of a flock of sheep rushed into the shop of Mr. E. Matcham, chemist, Hyde Park Corner, and all the rest followed, knocking over everything that came in their way, including a paraffin stove, which was broken, thus setting fire to the pharmacy. Mr. Matcham and his assistants subdued the flames with doormats and buckets of water before the arrival of the fire-brigade.

At Merthyr Tydvil last week, Mr. Ivor Thomas, of Messrs. Rees Thomas & Son, chemists, High Street, had an explosion while opening a tin containing chloride of lime in which gas had been generated. Part of the contents went all over him, some of the dust entering his eyes. Mr. Thomas asked his customer to lead him to the house, where, by promptly washing his eyes with milk, he prevented injury to his eyesight.

At Cambridge the old ceremony of sending up two rockets on New Year's Eve—one for the old and one for the new year—was kept up by Mr. Arthur A. Deck, grandson of the originator, Mr. Isaiah Deck. A fine night caused a larger concourse of people than usual to assemble; and, according to records available, the occasion was the eighty-sixth consecutive one on which the custom has been observed. Mr. A. A. Deck instituted a copper collection when he began carrying out the custom, and this year 24s. was realised for the Local Police Boot Fund.

In the monthly report to the Reading Town Council, the manager of the waterworks states that Dr. J. C. Thresh, who recently examined the new system of filtration, wrote stating that he was interested in the results obtained at Reading with the Decolor process, using chlorine as a water-purification agent. Reading had set an example which, sooner or later, would be followed throughout the civilised world, and why should any authority continue to supply water liable to the least suspicion when by so simple a process absolute safety could be ensured?

The crisis at the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle-on-Tyne, arising out of the resignation of the honorary medical staff, in consequence of the allegations of undue preference in regard to the admission of patients (*C. & D.*, 1910, II., p. 880), has, it is hoped, been amicably settled. A conference between eight of the honorary medical staff and eight members of the House Committee has resulted in

the withdrawal of the portions of the report objected to. The report, thus amended, will go before the House Committee, and it is anticipated that the doctors' resignations will be withdrawn, though a scheme of admissions is yet to be discussed.

Royal Tradesmen.

Royal Warrants of Appointment have been granted to Bovril, Ltd., Old Street, London, E.C.; P. B. Burgoyne & Co., Australian wine-growers; Erasmic Co., Ltd., Warrington; Goodall, Backhouse & Co., Leeds; Savory & Moore, 143 New Bond Street, London, W.; and C. Southwell & Co., Ltd., Dock Head, London, E.

Institute of Chemistry.

The Council of the Institute have decided to discontinue the issue of annual certificates of membership, as the solicitors to the Institute are of opinion that the provisions of the charter and bye-laws will be sufficiently complied with by the issue of a certificate to each Fellow and Associate when admitted. The new form of certificate will be a simple statement, printed on parchment, certifying that the member was admitted on a certain date. It will be sealed with the seal of the Institute and signed by the President, Registrar, and Secretary. Any Fellow or Associate can obtain the new certificate on making application to the Registrar.

New Year Honours.

The list of honours granted by King George V. was issued on New Year's Day. It includes five new Privy Councillors, nine baronetcies, and twenty-five knighthoods on the home list, besides others on the Colonial and Indian lists. Mr. Godfrey Baring, ex-M.P. for the Isle of Wight, who receives a baronetcy, was a member of the Joint Committee of the Houses of Lords and Commons which took evidence regarding the Poisons and Pharmacy Bill of 1908. A knighthood has been conferred on Mr. Herbert Fogelstrom Bartlett, I.S.O., Commissioner of Inland Revenue, who virtually had charge of the medicine-stamp department at Somerset House in 1903, when so many questions arose consequent upon the High Court decisions in *Farmer v. Glyn-Jones* and *Ransom v. Sanguinetti*. Knight-hoods are also conferred on five medical men—namely, Dr. Horatio Bryan Donkin, medical adviser to the Prisons Commission and Director of Convict Prisons; Mr. Frederick Samuel Eve, F.R.C.S., 61 Harley Street, London, W., senior surgeon to the London Hospital; Dr. David Ferrier, F.R.S., F.R.C.P., 34 Cavendish Square, London, W.; Dr. George Newman, chief medical officer of the Board of Education; and Dr. Joseph M. Redmond, F.R.C.P.I., 41 Merrion Square, Dublin (whose name is incorrectly given in the list as "John"), who was president of the Royal College of Physicians, Ireland, from 1906 to 1908. The Right Hon. L. S. Jameson, M.D., C.B., receives a baronetcy in connection with the Union of South Africa.

Railway Companies and Goods.

A matter of interest affecting the delivery and collection of parcels by the railway companies came up at the last meeting of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce. Two cases of samples from the War Office had been delivered to the offices of the Chamber, weighing respectively about 1 qr. 23 lb. and 2 qrs. 25 lb. The offices are on the second floor, and while they were delivered into the offices, the London and North Western Railway Co. declined to collect the packages in order to return them to the War Office, except on the ground-floor level. As the Chamber of Commerce keep no staff, the liftman had to be especially remunerated to convey the packages from the office to the lift and bring them to the street level. The carrier, acting under instructions, refused to do this, though there is a passenger lift and a wide staircase. Mr. G. H. Wright, Secretary of the Chamber, stated that he had written to the railway company on the matter. It was important, he said, that these packages from the War Office should be collected and delivered, as the exhibition of the samples at the Chamber enabled local manufacturers to tender, without having to go to London to make an inspection. The company's explanation was that they are compelled to take precautions on account of the extension of their liability under the Workmen's Compensation Act. It was decided to send a copy of Mr. Wright's letter to the War

Office and to the local manager of the railway company. Mr. Wright said that an inquiry as to the weight of packages that would be delivered and collected on the second floor elicited the reply "Up to 28 lb."

Birmingham Notes.

The scarlet-fever epidemic is subsiding, and the demand for refrigerants and disinfectants has slackened.

Mr. W. B. Featherstone makes but little progress towards recovery. He has been removed from hospital to his home, and it is hoped that this may prove beneficial.

Owing to the remarkable weather the chemists do not quite know how to dress their windows. There seems a general consensus of opinion, judging from appearances, that it is not yet spring nor has autumn gone, nor is there anything to remind us of the winter season.

Herbalists and the Blue-book on Unqualified Practice.

The Secretary of the National Association of Medical Herbalists of Great Britain, Ltd., sent on November 25, 1910, the following protest to Lord Morley:

MY LORD,—The officers and members of the above-mentioned association enter an emphatic protest against the reports of the medical officers of health as issued as a parliamentary paper on unqualified practice. Should legislation be attempted on the lines of these reports, we shall use every means in our power to see that no injustice is done to herbalists.

I am, my Lord,

Your obedient Servant,

CHAS. BURDEN, Hon. Sec.

Lancashire Notes.

The results of the festive season have been of some value to chemists in general, the demand for haust. nigrum and pulv. Seidlitz, etc., being greater than usual.

A motor-van delivery is an innovation by Messrs. J. Woolley, Sons & Co., of Victoria Bridge, Manchester, which chemists in the suburbs of that city will specially appreciate.

Several chemists and drug stores in Manchester district have already posted up placards announcing a "sale of Christmas goods, perfumery, etc.," at 15 to 20 per cent. reduction.

The lecture on Synthetic Perfumes and Flavours, by Mr. Gerald Pinchbeck, on January 11, at the Manchester Pharm. Assoc. Rooms, promises to be particularly interesting, as Mr. Pinchbeck is an authority on the subject.

Mr. Percy Knott, chemist and druggist, 1 Blackburn Road, Bolton, assisted in entertaining the inmates of the Bolton Workhouse Hospital at Christmas in the capacity of Father Christmas by distributing toys, etc., to the sick children.

The Darwen Tradesmen's Association on December 29 unanimously appointed Mr. W. H. Lomax, chemist and druggist, a Vice-President, on his relinquishing the presidency of the Association. Mr. W. Standing, chemist and druggist, was again chosen for the post of Treasurer.

Lead in Soda-water.

At the resumed inquest at Scarborough on January 2 regarding the death of Mrs. Bredon (*C. & D.*, 1910, 11., p. 916), Mr. Spencer, licensee of the Aberdeen Hotel, stated that he supplied to Dr. Bredon on an average about three syphons per week of soda-water made by the Clifton Street Aerated-water Co. In answer to a juror the Coroner said he did not believe that there was on record a case of lead-poisoning from soda-water. Mr. Herbert King, M.Sc., F.I.C., the Scarborough borough analyst, stated that an analysis of the Scarborough water-supply showed that it was free from lead. The contents of three syphons sent to him showed $\frac{1}{16}$ grain per gal. in two of the syphons, and $\frac{3}{16}$ grain per gal. in the third. Of the two syphons containing the larger amount one had been partly used by Mrs. Bredon. He had tested the taps of the syphons and found that they were of block tin and contained no lead. Witness, in reply to the Coroner, said that where lead-poisoning had occurred authorities agreed that water containing more than $\frac{1}{16}$ grain of lead per gal. should not be passed. On January 3 Mr. King, in reply to Mr. Whitfield, solicitor for the Aerated-water Co., said that Mrs. Bredon would take into her system 1 grain of

lead in forty weeks at the rate at which she drank soda-water, and he also agreed that the maximum medicinal dose of lead salts is 5 grains. Mr. Whitfield: So there is as much lead in one dose prescribed by a doctor as there would be in the soda-water Mrs. Bredon drank in four years. Mr. King said he was not prepared to accept an analysis by Mr. Fairley, the Leeds city analyst, showing that the soda-water contained only 0.0007 grain of lead per gal. Dr. Cuff stated that he was sure deceased died from chronic lead-poisoning, and Dr. Knight, the Scarborough medical officer, said that water containing $\frac{1}{16}$ grain of lead per gal. would be highly injurious. Mr. Whitfield called Mr. George Holmes Meadley, Ph.C., who said he had analysed the same soda-water which he had in stock and did not find affirmative test for $\frac{1}{16}$ grain per gal. Mr. Whitfield said that from the time the water left the town mains to the time it came as soda-water to the consumer it never came into contact with any lead at all. The water was never brought into contact with anything but tin-lined receptacles. The Coroner then summed up. The jury were absent twenty minutes, and on returning into court the foreman intimated that it was their unanimous verdict that death was caused by lead-poisoning, but there was not sufficient evidence to show how the lead got into the system. Discussion then took place on the question of the syphons, and the Coroner asked the jury whether they were satisfied there was lead in the syphons. A jurymen replied that they found there was lead in the soda-water, which was absorbed into the system, but there was not sufficient proof that death was entirely due to this lead. Mr. Whitfield submitted that the original verdict of the jury should be taken. The Coroner said Mr. Whitfield was transgressing. He (the Coroner) was trying to get the true feeling of the jury. Eventually the jury retired again, and on returning into court the foreman said their verdict stood exactly the same as before.

The Stepney Siege.

Cohen's Drug Stores, 109 Sidney Street, London, E., was converted into a temporary fort on January 4, during the extraordinary siege of the supposed Houndsditch assassins on that date. The first floor above the shop is directly opposite the front of No. 100, from which two desperadoes poured bullets from Browning pistols, holding 600 police and thirty guardsmen at bay for over seven hours. The drawing-room and bedroom were dismantled, mattresses, pillows, etc., being piled below the windows, which were used as loopholes by the half-dozen soldier sharpshooters and constables who sniped at the refugees in the house opposite on observing the slightest movement. The house came in for a severe peppering, and one of the constables was hit by a bullet which ricocheted from a brass gas-jet. The proprietor of the drug-stores, Mr. Carl Cohen, is described in Kelly's London Directory as a herbalist, and an interview with him appeared in "The Standard" of January 5.

In Various Courts.

At Stamford on December 24, 1910, Samuel Franklin, chemist's assistant, who appeared on a charge of stealing articles value 4s. 3d. from his employer, Mr. W. S. Ennals, chemist and druggist, 70 High Street, Stamford (*C. & D.*, 1910, 11., p. 949), pleaded guilty, expressed deep contrition, and asked for lenient treatment. Accused was released on his own recognisances.

At Bridgwater on December 29, 1910, Cecil Ernest Barrow, described as an insurance-company inspector, was committed for trial to the Sessions on a charge of obtaining money by means of worthless cheques from various local tradesmen. These included Messrs. Hickman & Sons, Ltd., chemists, 50 Eastover, who changed a cheque for 5l. from defendant, giving 2l. change.

At an inquiry held at Swansea into the death of John Lewis, landlord of the Duke Hotel, it was stated that deceased had taken many bottles of a remedy to reduce his exceptional stoutness. Dr. Blagdon Richards deposed that he had obtained an analysis of the preparation, which apparently consisted of little more than water, containing a quantity of citric acid so small as to be without effect. "Death from heart-failure" was the verdict recorded.

At the inquest held at Blackburn on January 3 concerning the death of Joseph Pickup, labourer, it was stated

that deceased had been in the habit of drinking a mixture containing chlorodyne and that he had taken some of it upstairs the night before he was found dead. One of deceased's employers, however, stated that the mixture was harmless and that a person could drink a bottleful at once without ill-effect. A verdict of death from natural causes was returned.

At Nottingham, on January 3, Thomas B. Potter (38), chemist, late manager of the local branch of Boots Ltd., at 48 Arkwright Street, pleaded guilty to embezzling 3s. 11d. and 3s. 10d., the moneys of his employers. Mr. W. E. Comery, who defended, expressed accused's sincere regret for what had happened and his gratitude to the company for their magnanimous attitude. He asked the magistrates to give Potter another chance and make use of the Probation Act. The magistrates adopted this course and bound prisoner over for 12 months.

Contracts.

Lyminge Guardians.—Corbyn, Stacey & Co., Ltd., for drugs at 46l. 5s. 9d.

Hull Guardians.—Mr. J. T. Lincoln, Ph.C., appointed druggist for six months.

Brightlingsea Urban Council.—Mr. C. F. Aldrich, Brightlingsea, for disinfectants.

Whitby Education Committee.—Mr. P. W. Atkinson, Whitby, appointed chemist for six months.

Guisborough (Yorks) Urban Council.—Mr. J. W. Frank, Guisborough, as chemist for six months.

Chorley Town Council.—Executors of William Sharratt, Manchester, for the annual supply of disinfectants.

Stanley (Yorks) Urban Council.—Mr. B. Atha, Leeds, for disinfectant powder at 4l. 15s. per ton, and disinfectant fluid at 2s. per gal.

Brentford District Council.—Mr. J. B. Humble, chemist, Bradford, for a forty-gallon cask of disinfecting fluid at 3s. 6d. per gal.

Nottingham City Council.—For the annual supply of drugs, etc., to the Sanatorium, at approximate schedule prices: Parke, Davis & Co., for serums, at 274l. 18s. 3d.; Hough, Hoseason & Co., for drugs, serums, meat extracts, etc., at 367l. 8s. 10d.; Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., for medical, surgical, and dispensary requisites, at 96l. 7s. 6d.

Barnstaple Town Council.—Hicking & Son, chemists, Barnstaple, for disinfecting fluid at 1s. 11d. per gal.; Mr. G. M. F. Pitt, chemist, Barnstaple, for disinfecting powder at 4s. and 5s. per cwt., sulphur candles 18s. 6d. per cwt., formalin tablets 4s. 3d. per lb., formalin liquid 6s. 6d. per gal., pine blocks 28s. per cwt.; Mr. E. W. Proudman, chemist, Barnstaple, for carbolic acid at 1s. 5d. per gal., and crude carbolic acid at 1s. per gal.

IRISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Brevities.

General Booth, of the Salvation Army, will be the guest of Sir Wm. Whitla, L.P.S.I., at Lennoxvale, Belfast, this month.

The plate-glass windows in the pharmacy of Mr. J. A. Bingham, Ph.C., 43 Donegall Place, Belfast, were accidentally broken on January 2.

Messrs. C. B. Abernethy & Sons, druggists, have named their newly renovated and extended premises on the Albert Bridge Road, Belfast, the Mountpottinger Drug Stores.

Mr. Samuel Parker Boyd, managing director of Messrs. Boileau & Boyd, Ltd., 46 Mary Street, Dublin, has been nominated as traders' representative on the Council of the Dublin Port and Docks Board.

Mr. Jas. Dundee, Ph.C., Malone Pharmacy, 95 University Road, Belfast, has enlarged his premises, chiefly with a view to providing additional accommodation for dispensing.

Dr. J. C. McWalter, Ph.C., proprietor of Leonard's Pharmacies, Dublin, has been appointed by the Irish Law Courts one of a managing committee of seven to direct the affairs of the Dublin Skin and Cancer Hospital.

A man named Carleton has been sent for trial at the Cork Assizes for obtaining money by false pretences from Messrs. Kiloh & Co., Ltd., Patrick Street, Cork. Orders supplemented by a request for a "loan" were alleged to be the prisoner's *modus operandi*.

Among the members of the Belfast City Council who retire shortly on completion of their triennial term is Councillor W. McMullan, of the firm of Messrs. Thos. McMullan & Co., chemists and druggists, Victoria Street, Belfast. Councillor McMullan, who represents the Windsor Ward, is coming forward again and his election will probably be unopposed.

Messrs. Ayrton, Saunders & Co., Ltd., Liverpool, have made some changes for the new year in the representation of the company in Ireland. Mr. V. White no longer represents them. Mr. I. C. Dawson will now cover the South and West, making his headquarters in Dublin. Mr. G. Hayes (late with Messrs. Clarke & Co., Ltd., Belfast) will cover the North, with his headquarters in Belfast.

SCOTTISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Edinburgh and the South.

Mr. Wm. Strachan, son of Mr. J. Strachan, chemist and druggist, Jedburgh, has been appointed organist in Crailing U.F. Church.

Dr. Archibald Craig, Pathhead, Ford, Mid-Lothian, who died some time ago, left a fortune of 17,987. Dr. Craig was one of the old school of physicians, dispensing his own prescriptions, etc., and ministered to the people of a large and scattered district for many years.

At the Blandfield chemical-works of Messrs. T. & H. Smith, Ltd., on December 29, 1910, Thomas Cribbes, engineer, sustained severe injuries to the head and back through falling a distance of about 35 ft. down the well of a hoist. The sufferer was taken to the Royal Infirmary.

While several pharmacists have ceased distributing calendars at this season on the plea that many people, whom they only know by sight, may not receive one, the pleasing custom is widely followed by chemists with a large family business. Mr. G. P. Cooper, chemist and druggist, Newhaven, has sent out a fine little calendar this year, which for neatness and utility would be difficult to surpass.

The Scottish Mountaineering Club spent the New Year holidays from December 29 to January 3 in the Ben Cruchan district of Argyllshire, the Loch Awe Hotel being the rendezvous. The arrangements were under the care of Dr. W. Inglis Clark, of Messrs. Duncan, Flockhart & Co., Edinburgh, who is the Hon. Secretary. A description of the climbing by Mr. Loudon M. Douglas, British Secretary of the White Cross Congress, appeared in "The Scotsman" of January 3.

FRENCH NEWS.

(From the "C. & D." Paris Correspondent.)

PROFESSOR GUIGNARD'S DECISION to resign his post as Director of the Paris Superior School of Pharmacy was prompted by a desire to continue his scientific studies. Since he accepted this responsible and exacting post he had to stop his publications on botanical subjects. As he is but fifty-eight, it is not unlikely that his high reputation as a botanist may yet be increased.

FRENCH ASSISTANTS.—At the last meeting of the Council of the General Association of French Pharmacists two resolutions were passed, the first reminding pharmacists that "employés should be given the title of pharmacy assistants (*aides en pharmacie*)" (this refers especially to those men who do not intend to qualify), and the second inviting pharmaceutical societies and individual pharmacists "to make no agreements with the assistants' association known as the 'Syndicat (trades union) de Préparateurs.'"

GIFT TO THE PARIS MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY.—The late Dr. Ernest Durand, known as the donor to the Paris Museum of Natural History of the herbarium originally belonging to the botanist Cosson (one of the rarest collections of its kind), as well as an extensive library, has left the sum of 150,000f. to be devoted to the classification and study of the botanical collections in the museum. At the time these collections were given to the authorities in 1906, Dr. Durand gave 50,000f. to defray the expense of classification, etc.

LABELLING OF EATING OILS.—By order of the Minister of Agriculture, it will not be permissible from January 1, 1911, to apply the terms "vierge," "fine," "surfine," "superfine," "supérieure," except to oils of which the nature is indicated on the label—e.g., "huile d'olive vierge," "huile de noix supérieure." Oils bearing a designation which does not disclose their nature, and mixtures of different oils, must be described either as "huile comestible" or "huile de table," and to distinguish the diverse qualities of such oils only such terms as the following may be employed: "blanche," "à friture," "1^{re}, 2^{me}, 3^{me}, etc., qualité," "1^{re}, 2^{me}, 3^{me}, etc., choix." The use of the foregoing terms, together with a trade-mark (*marque commerciale*), is authorised, on condition that the use of such a mark does not lead to confusion between these oils and oils of which the nature is indicated on the label.

THE NEW YEAR'S FAIR has once more invaded the Parisian boulevards. The hundreds of booths are mostly devoted to the sale of toys, cards, and small fancy goods, but no profession is excluded. I noticed a man in the neatest of blouses and aprons proclaiming with the leather-lunged and Demosthenian eloquence the virtues of his pectoral candy. His eagle glance having detected no characteristically phthisical patient among his limited audience, he struck the nobler note of common humanity. "Have any of you," he insinuated in dulcet tone, "left at home some poor, unhappy victim, racked with bronchitis, sleepless with asthma—a venerable grandmother, a dearly loved mother?"—"or even a mother-in-law," suggested a Gavroche behind me *sotto voce*. "Take them this remedy. Tell them there is yet hope." He was soon busy handing out his attractive candy to a crowd of working-class buyers. It evidently pays him, for I have noticed that he takes his "pitch" there every year.

HOW PHARMACISTS SAVED NOTRE DAME.—At the recent annual public meeting of the Academy of Medicine, Professor Thoinot read a biography of Dr. Brouardel, the lately deceased Vice-President of the last Pharmaceutical Codex Revision Committee, in the course of which he related the following interesting and hitherto unpublished anecdote:

"In 1871, during the Commune, Brouardel was doctor at the Hôtel Dieu Hospital. On May 24, when the Communists were defending Paris, street by street, against the ever-advancing and victorious Versailles troops, he was the only doctor present. A house surgeon informed him that the Communists had come during the previous night to ask for tools to force the doors of Notre Dame Cathedral, as they intended to set it on fire. The tools were refused, but they succeeded in breaking in, and at 11 A.M. thick smoke was seen issuing from Notre Dame. Brouardel crossed the road and found the sacred building full of smoke. He ordered the house surgeons of the Hôtel Dieu to remove the sick into the cellars, for the proximity of the cathedral to the hospital made him fear the worst, and put himself at the head of the house pharmacists to endeavour to extinguish the fire. They asked for the hospital fire-engine, but the Communists had placed it under armed guard, and it was refused. The pharmacy *internes* rushed over to the cathedral, dragged chairs, benches, and all removable woodwork into the street outside, and then successfully attacked the flames and got them under after strenuous exertion. The names of the young pharmacists who thus saved one of the most historically interesting of the architectural ornaments of Paris were MM. Courant, Delarue, Defresne, Dugué, and Dupoux. A smart street-fight was going on not far away during this incident, but the Communists being driven back, all danger was soon over. Dr. Brouardel was subsequently awarded the Cross of the Legion of Honour for military services."

PASTEURIANA.—The Municipality of Dôle recently set aside a sum of money to be devoted to the purchase and preservation of the house where Pasteur was born on December 27, 1822. The opportunity was also extended

to all lovers of the great benefactor to show their appreciation of his life and work by adding their names to the subscription-list. Pasteur's father, an ex-non-commissioned officer of the French army, took an intelligent interest in his son's studies, hearing his lessons and looking over his exercises, though not himself a highly educated man. At this time he had a small tannery, and when Pasteur had homesickness during his first stay in Paris he would say: "If I can only smell the tan I shall soon be all right again." And he hied him home to enjoy the odour. Still more difficult to realise is the fact that Pasteur narrowly escaped becoming a portrait painter! During this holiday he took up art with enthusiasm, and executed portraits in coloured chalks (*pastels*) of all the local notabilities. He was nicknamed "the artist." Rested and refreshed, he returned to Paris and entered the Ecole Normale—the rest is history. When he saw his home again, he was successful and famous, but his affection for the old place was ever unchanged.—Pasteur's tomb in the crypt of the Paris Institute has lately been closed to allow Madame Pasteur's body to be laid beside her husband's. This has now been done, and the place can again be inspected from 1 to 4 P.M. daily.

INDIA AND THE EAST.

(From the "C. & D." Correspondents.)

PERSONAL.—Mr. W. C. Gowans, chemist and druggist and optician to the Colombo Apothecaries' Co., Ltd., Colombo, Ceylon, proposes to leave for England by the s.s. *Oceana* on April 5.

AT THE ALLAHABAD EXHIBITION, in addition to the exhibitors mentioned last week, Messrs. Oppenheimer, Son & Co., Ltd., display Pulverettes of quinine. Of the eight jars sent only two arrived intact, but the contents of the broken jars are being used for demonstration purposes.

COCAINE SEIZURES.—The Bombay Excise Department, by means of a bogus customer, induced some smugglers to part at Bandra with 105 oz. of cocaine for Rs. 1,260 worth of marked notes. The dealers were then arrested. On December 14, in connection with these offences, Roger de Silva, municipal councillor, Bandra, and John A. Witek, dealer in wild animals, were fined Rs. 500, while Christian Tercoving, seaman, of the s.s. *Praga*, which conveyed the smuggled cocaine, was sentenced to two months' rigorous imprisonment.

THE LATEX-COAGULANT CASE, which was settled before the District Judge of Colombo on November 29 (*C. & D.*, 1910, II., p. 920), came before the Assistant District Judge on December 13 on a question of form of decree. The defendants, Messrs. Ch. & A. Böhringer, objected to the Judge including in the decree a certification to the validity of the patent. On it being stated for the plaintiff (Mr. David Sandmann) that no objection was raised to the defendants' application, that part of the decree certifying to the validity of the patent was deleted.

"ANTI-OPIMUM PILLS."—Under this heading in our issue of December 24 we quoted an interview with the new Chinese Minister in London, in the course of which he gave the interviewer an extract from a Hong-Kong newspaper, stating that pills so described were found on analysis to consist of "morphia made into a tabloid with ordinary household flour." We understand that Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co. have never supplied any such preparation, either under the "Tabloid" trade-mark or under any other title. When the statement appeared they traced the writer of the article, interviewed him, and ascertained that he had used the word "tabloid" under the somewhat common misapprehension that anything in compressed-tablet form is "tabloid."

RUSSIAN IODINE.—In our issue of March 12, 1910, p. 116, we mentioned that two German chemists had erected an iodine-factory on the Bay of Olga, North Manchuria, near Vladivostok, and we understand that fair progress is being made. The bay on which the factory is built is said to be exceptionally rich in seaweed, and at Expedition Bay, to the south of Vladivostok, there are almost inexhaustible quantities.

AUSTRALASIAN NEWS.

"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of nine Societies of Chemists in Australia and New Zealand, as well as to other Chemists in business there.

The Commonwealth.

THE AUSTRALIAN INDUSTRIES PRESERVATION BILL, which has been under discussion in the Commonwealth Parliament, may presumably affect the operations of the P.A.T.A. In the second reading speech the Attorney-General said: "It is not our intention in this measure, or of the Government, to prevent combinations. Combinations are the inevitable result of existing conditions. If by law we prohibited combinations to-morrow we should create a condition of industrial chaos. So far from desiring to suppress combines, this party realises that the day of competition is done. We hope to see the day when by municipal, State, and national co-operation we shall to a very large extent supersede the private corporations that are in existence now; but, as practical men, we have to deal with things as they are. That being so, we must have some control."

AUSTRALASIAN PHARMACEUTICAL CONFERENCE.—A circular has been issued by Mr. Forster, Secretary of the Special Committee of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales, which suggests the following subjects for discussion at the forthcoming Conference:

Pharmaceutical Formulary of Australia.

Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia.

Recognition by the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

Reciprocity with New Zealand.

Effect of the Recent and Intended Legislation on the Business of Pharmacists.

An invitation is given to suggest further subjects. The Conference commences on January 9 with a reception in the morning and the issue of tickets, badges, etc., at the Sydney University. The report of the Committee on the "Australasian Pharmaceutical Formulary," which is to be submitted to the Conference, is printed in "The Chemist and Druggist of Australasia" for December 1910. The formulæ are for the most part those which have appeared in the previous edition. Others are subject to slight amendments, and a few alternative formulæ are suggested. The last named have been printed in the *C. & D.* from time to time.

New Zealand.

THE OPIUM AMENDMENT ACT has had an untroubled passage through Parliament. The main provision brings laudanum within the provisions of the Act.

A DENTISTS ACT AMENDMENT BILL, introduced by the Hon. Mr. Buddo, gives those who were *bona-fide* apprentices or pupils on January 10, 1905, the same privileges of examination as if neither the Dentists Act, 1904, nor the principal Act had been passed. Applications for registration in pursuance of the new provision must be made before January 1, 1912.

Queensland.

THE DENTAL BILL has been dropped by an arrangement between the Dental Board and the Minister. The only clause of importance would have transferred from the Board to the Governor-in-Council the power to recognise certificates of competency.

POTASSIUM CYANIDE.—A Bill to amend the Marsupial Boards Act of 1905 was introduced into the Queensland Legislative Assembly on November 22, 1910. A new provision makes it unlawful to use any potassium cyanide or other poison for the destruction of marsupials or dingoes; penalty not exceeding 10*l.*

Tasmania.

THE PHARMACY ACT AMENDMENT ACT and the Food and Drugs Act received Royal assent on November 11, 1910.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES.—The Pharmacy Board is engaged in arranging a scheme whereby students will be able to avail themselves of the facilities for instruction in the scientific branches afforded by the University and the

various technical schools and colleges. The curriculum will be recast so that the Final examination will be practical, conducted by the Board, entry to which will only be gained on the presentation of University certificates that the candidate has already passed in the subjects of materia medica, botany, and chemistry. The new scheme of examination will then be as follows: Preliminary will be conducted as in the past, with the option of taking the Junior Public in the necessary subjects. The Intermediate will be abolished, and its place taken by examinations in the subjects of botany, materia medica, and chemistry, conducted by the University. The Final will still be conducted by the Board, but will be restricted to the practical subjects—prescription-reading, posology and toxicology, and dispensing.

Victoria.

THE PRIVATE HOSPITALS REGULATION BILL passed through Committee of the Legislative Council on November 22, 1910. Among other clauses which received attention was Clause 24: "No person other than a registered pharmaceutical chemist shall dispense or compound any medicines for use in a private hospital." The Minister for Public Health moved two amendments. The first, giving a legally qualified medical practitioner the right to dispense, was agreed to; and the second, limiting the medicines thus controlled to internal medicines. Mr. R. B. Rees, pharmacist and councillor, pointed out the danger of nurses dispensing ready-made preparations and opposed the suggestion to limit the control of dispensing to internal medicines; but his suggestions were not acted upon.

Western Australia.

A BEECHAM'S PILLS DEAL.—Frank Freeman, chemist, Perth and Fremantle, was on November 17, 1910, fined 30*l.* or in default three months' imprisonment, for receiving a quantity of Beecham's pills, valued at 70*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.*, which had been stolen. At the same time Harry Thorpe, a carter, who had taken delivery from a steamer of two cases of Beecham's pills, and delivered one only to Felton, Grimwade & Bickford, was charged with having stolen the case and with having received stolen goods. He was fined 25*l.* in default three months' imprisonment, and was ordered to make restitution to Felton, Grimwade & Bickford to the extent of a further 20*l.*, or go to gaol for two months.

THE HEALTH BILL, which covers the Food and Drugs Bill and Pure Food Acts of some of the other States, was under discussion in Committee on November 8, 9, 10 and 11, 1910. The bulk of the discussion related to purely sanitary matters. Clause 194 provides that the sale of patent medicines may be prohibited, and was amended by the insertion of the following new paragraphs:

Every person who publishes, or causes to be published, any statement which is intended by the defendant, or any other person, to promote the sale of any article as a medicine, preparation, or appliance for the prevention, alleviation, or cure of any human ailment or physical defect, and which is false in any material particular relating to the ingredients, composition, structure, nature, or operation of that article, or to the effects which have followed, or may follow, the use thereof, shall be guilty of an offence against this Act. A statement shall be deemed to be published within the meaning of this section if it is inserted in any newspaper printed and published within the State, or is publicly exhibited in view of persons in any road, street, or other public place, or is contained in any document which is gratuitously sent to any person through the Post Office, or which is gratuitously delivered to any person, or left upon premises in the occupation of any person.

If any person causes any statement to be inserted in breach of this section in a newspaper printed and published in Western Australia, the printer, publisher, and proprietor of that newspaper shall severally, and without excluding the liability of any other person, be guilty of an offence against this Act. Provided that no prosecution shall be instituted against the printer, publisher, or proprietor of any newspaper printed and published in Western Australia, for the publication of any statement in breach of this section, unless before the publication thereof a warning has been delivered to the defendant or defendants, under the hand of the commissioner, that such statement, or some other statement substantially to the same effect, is false, and that the publication thereof is an offence against this Act. Penalties have also been provided for the sale of newspapers containing misleading advertisements, whether the papers are published outside or in the State.

CANADIAN NEWS.

(From the "C. & D." Correspondent.)

CANADIAN POTASH SALTS.—According to information which has reached the Berlin correspondent of the "Daily Mail" from a "thoroughly well-informed quarter," important deposits of potash have been found in Central Canada. Germany, which at present possesses a monopoly of the world's potash-supply, has taken prompt cognisance of the new situation, and a powerful syndicate (continues the "Daily Mail" correspondent) is already forming in Berlin to secure the Canadian potash for the omnipotent German Trust. The discovery was made a few months ago on the shores of Lakes St. Clair and Huron, in Ontario, along the line of the St. Clair River and near the town of Goderich. German geologists were sent to make investigations, and on the strength of their report a company financed by the German potash magnates was launched. The potash conflict between Germany and the United States is still unsettled. Fresh steps leading to a solution or a tariff war will, it is expected, be taken at Washington at an early date.

SALE OF POISONS.—Mr. E. W. Lewis has introduced into the Canadian Parliament a Bill to further regulate the sale of poisons. The first clause is as follows:

"Any person who by himself or his agent sells, offers for sale, attempts to sell, expose for sale, or gives away any poison without doing so under the authority of a medical certificate or description is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to a fine of not less than \$100 or imprisonment of not more than six months in gaol, or both."

Mr. Lewis explains his object in introducing the Bill to be to put a stop to the use of cocaine. He says:

"I am informed by medical men that in almost all the smaller towns of Canada from fifteen to twenty young men are gradually becoming more and more addicted to the use of cocaine. This Bill does not apply to London purple and Paris green as used by farmers and market-gardeners, but includes all other poisons, such as cocaine, opium and its derivatives, chloral, cannabis indica, carbolic acid, and other poisons."

The Bill also provides that poisons must be kept and sold in three-cornered or square blue-glass bottles with rough corners.

SOUTH AFRICAN NEWS.

"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of the seven Societies and Associations of Chemists in British South Africa, as well as to other chemists in business there.

The Union.

THE MEDICAL AND PHARMACY BILL will not be brought forward during this Session of the Union Parliament. It was expected that it would be, but agreement has not yet been arrived at.

A NATIONAL BOTANIC GARDEN FOR SOUTH AFRICA was advocated by Professor H. W. Pearson, of the South African College, Cape Town, in his address as President of Section C of the South African Association for the Advancement of Science. The Professor, in his concluding words, states: "The economic value of a State Department of Botany organised upon a scientific basis and provided with adequate equipment has been abundantly proved in all other important parts of the Empire, tropical, sub-tropical, and temperate. What is probably the most efficient botanic garden at present existing is maintained by the Dutch in Java." The Groote Schuur estate is mentioned as possessing many striking advantages for such a project.

Natal.

PERSONAL.—Mr. C. H. Davis, the new South African representative of Messrs. S. Maw, Son & Sons, paid his first visit to Durban in the early part of December. He left for up country on December 11.—Mr. Marshall, Mr. L. T. Piver's representative, was also in Durban during the second week in December.

WHALE OIL.—H.M. Trade Commissioner for the Union reports that the whale-oil industry has expanded considerably since the establishment of the first station in Natal some four years ago. The rise in price owing to the linseed shortage has assisted the industry. The African Colour Co. has established works at Durban for the manufacture of crude glycerin from whale oil.

Orange Free State.

PERSONAL.—Mr. S. S. Hewitt, of Messrs. Heynes, Mathew & Co., Ltd., has returned to Bloemfontein from his holiday in England.

BUSINESS CHANGES.—The firm of Jeffrey & Co., chemists, Harvey Road, Bloemfontein, have sold their business at that address to Mr. W. T. Prophet, and have moved to 148 Maitland Street.—Mr. F. Carter, formerly manager of Messrs. Heynes, Mathew & Co.'s West End Pharmacy at Bloemfontein, has started business on his own account in Maitland Street.

Transvaal.

TRANSVAAL PHARMACY BOARD.—At the Board's examination held last month eight candidates presented themselves, of whom the following four passed: Fleetwood Graham Carnegie, Cyril Gordon Davies, Mauritz de Leeuw, and Alexander Henderson Young.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN NEWS.

DR. J. THOMANN, editor of the German part of the "Schweizerische Wochenschrift für Chemie und Pharmacie," has been promoted to the rank of staff-pharmacist of the Swiss Confederation, the highest pharmaceutical position in the Swiss army. As such he assumes the direction of the Federal chemical and bacteriological laboratories.

SPIRIT DRAWBACK IN SPAIN.—The "Gaceta de Madrid" for December 13, 1910, contained a Royal Order, dated November 22, determining the rates at which the tax will be refunded, as from January 1, 1911, on the exportation from Spain of compound spirits and liqueurs, denatured alcohol, wines, alcoholic perfumery, varnish, medicines, etc., produced in the country.

THE ROUMANIAN GOVERNMENT has, through the Minister of the Interior, issued certain regulations dealing with the delicate question of giving the same rights to women pharmacists as are enjoyed by their male *cofrères* in regard to the granting of concessions. The female holder of a concession will, however, lose it on marrying a foreigner; and to prevent pharmacies falling into the hands of other than members of the profession she is not to consider the concession in the light of a *dot*, except in the event of marrying a qualified pharmacist.

HYOSCINE IN COURT.—A dramatic scene occurred in a New York Court on December 30, 1910, when Mr. Joseph Robin, President of the Northern Bank of New York, who appeared in answer to a charge of misappropriating \$80,000, collapsed, and became unconscious. It was found on the arrival of doctors that he was suffering from poisoning, and by use of a stomach-pump Robin was restored to consciousness. The latter then admitted taking a grain of hyoscine "to steady his nerves" for the trial, but denied attempting to commit suicide. Robin, who is a self-made man, is still under forty.

"Hist!" hissed the stealthy footpad as he knocked the druggist down; "deliver up your wad at once before I crack your crown! You need not say you have no gun—I've watched an hour or more and fifty people passed within and then came out your door!" "Alas, sir," wailed the druggist, as he rose with features pale, "I pray you, Mr. Footpad, kindly listen to my tale." [We all know what that was—sale of postage stamps, loan of directory, etc.] "Enough! enough!" the robber cried. "Your's is an awful calling! My life of crime has never met a story so appalling! Forgive that lump upon your head made by my club descending, and take my purse, I feel accursed to think I came near ending the life of one whose only work is every one befriending."—*Boston Post*.

LEGAL REPORTS.

TRADE LAW.

Weekly Tenancy of a Shop.—At the Frodsham Sessions last week, Mr. Wardle, solicitor, Runcorn, applied for an ejectment order against Mr. Arthur Maxwell Kneale, chemist and druggist, Helsby. He said the tenancy was admittedly a weekly one, and Mr. Kennedy, who formerly owned the business, transferred it to Mr. Kneale in 1908. His clients had since received the usual weekly rent of 7s. 6d. from Mr. Kneale. On November 19 the usual weekly notice to quit was given, and subsequently, as he did not leave the premises, the statutory notice was given that application would be made for an ejectment order. Mr. John Williams, the son of the owner of the premises (Mrs. Mary Williams), gave evidence in support of this statement, but in cross-examination he admitted that he had received rent up to December 12, 1910. Mr. Brown (for defendant) submitted that, the rent having been received since the serving of the notices, a complete "waiver" to the notices had been established. The Clerk agreed, and the Bench refused the application.

Pharmacy Act, 1868.

SALE OF "XL-ALL" FUMIGATOR.

The Registrar of the Pharmaceutical Society has taken proceedings against Thomas Kennedy & Co., nurserymen and seedsmen, 126 High Street, Dumfries, who are licensed under Section 2 of the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, for illegal sale of poison. The case was opened at the Sheriff Court House, Dumfries, before Sheriff Campion, on December 22, 1910, the complaint being:

1. Contravention of Sections 1 and 15 of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, in respect that they not being duly registered as chemists and druggists did keep open shop for the sale of poisons, and did sell by the hands of an employé who is not licensed, though the firm's manager is licensed under Clause 2 of the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908, on October 29, 1910, a quantity of nicotine, which is a poisonous vegetable alkaloid, as an ingredient in a quantity of XL-ALL vapourising fumigator.

2. Contravention of Section 17 of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, in respect that the bottle containing the nicotine did not bear the name and address of Thomas Kennedy & Co. as the seller of the poison.

For the defence, it was admitted that the complaint was relevant, but it was considered that the offences should be made alternative, not cumulative, as there was only one sale. Argument was reserved until January 19.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

TINCTURE OF QUININE.

At the Oswestry Borough Petty Sessions, before the Mayor (Colonel Beresford) and other Magistrates, on December 23, Mr. J. Howard Llewellyn, chemist and optician, The Cross, Oswestry, was summoned, under Section 6 of the 1875 Act, for selling tincture of quinine which was alleged to be deficient in alcohol. Mr. G. W. Ferrington appeared for the defendant. For the prosecution it was proved that defendant sold 4 oz. of the tincture, and the county analyst certified that the sample contained not more than 55 per cent. by volume of absolute alcohol. In his observations the analyst wrote: "Tincture of quinine as required by the British Pharmacopœia should contain at least 72 per cent. by volume of absolute alcohol." For the defence Mr. Ferrington submitted that the absence of the alcohol was not to the prejudice of the purchaser. In his evidence Mr. Llewellyn said that he is seldom asked for tincture of quinine, so that the stock was not turned over so often as in the ordinary case, consequently the tincture had been in the shop-bottle longer than usual; in fact, the bottle from which the police were supplied contained the stock taken over from his predecessor two years before. If he (defendant) had entertained any doubt as to its composition, he could have instructed his assistant to make it while the purchaser was in the shop, as it would only have taken two or three minutes to prepare. Dr. Aylmer Lewis also in evidence stated that tincture of quinine is not a drug often used by the medical profession. The tincture is taken simply for the sake of the quinine, and in his practice he should not be concerned at all about the alcohol. He thought evaporation would account to some extent for

the deficiency of the alcohol. Mr. Thomas Jones, chemist, Willow Street, gave similar evidence, and was cross-examined by Mr. Bremner Smith, and he pointed out that even according to the analyst's certificate the purchaser got what he demanded, because it had not been proved how much alcohol should be left in the tincture after it had been made up. Mr. Ferrington then addressed the Magistrates for the defence. After explaining how tincture of orange and tincture of quinine are made, he argued that the British Pharmacopœia is the final court of appeal, and that says nothing at all about the quantity of alcohol the finished article should contain. The analyst said the British Pharmacopœia requires it; but he submitted that it does not. The Bench retired to consider their decision, taking a copy of the British Pharmacopœia with them. On their return the Mayor announced that, having argued the matter out fully, they had decided to dismiss the case. They thought it right, however, that these drugs should be analysed.

SWEET SPIRIT OF NITRE.

At the Hanley County Police Court on January 2, the Stipendiary (Mr. Bertram C. Brough) gave judgment in the case in which Mr. John Tirrell, chemist and druggist, Market Square, Hanley, was summoned for selling sweet spirit of nitre which was reported by the public analyst to be 30 per cent. deficient in ethyl nitrite. The case was heard on December 19, and was fully reported in the *C. & D.* of December 24, p. 922. Mr. H. R. Fanner prosecuted on behalf of the Stoke-on-Trent Borough Council, and Mr. J. E. Moxon defended, instructed by Messrs. Neve, Beck & Kirby, solicitors to the Chemists' Defence Association. The defence was substantially an objection to the form of the analyst's certificate, it being contended, and evidence called to prove, that the spirit is an article liable to decomposition, but no reference to that fact was stated on the analyst's certificate. *Hudson v. Bridge* was quoted in proof of the contention. We subjoin the full text of the Stipendiary's judgment, in which he reviewed the defence and imposed a modified penalty:

"The defendant is charged with selling to the prejudice of the purchaser a certain drug—to wit, sweet spirit of nitre—which was not of the nature, substance, and quality of the article demanded, contrary to the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1875, Section 6. The certificate of Mr. Jones, the public analyst for the County Borough of Stoke-on-Trent, describes the drug as being 30 per cent. deficient in ethyl nitrite, containing only 1.21 per cent. instead of a minimum of 1.75 per cent. according to the British Pharmacopœia. Most of the facts were not in dispute. The purchaser duly complied with the statutory requirements. He sent the sample of the drug to Mr. Jones in a corked and sealed bottle on the same day that he obtained it, and Mr. Jones analysed it the day after he received it. The accuracy of the analysis was not contested. On the other hand, it was not suggested that the ascertained deficiency of ethyl nitrite was due to any wilful act or omission on the defendant's part, and it was readily acknowledged that the manufacturing or wholesale chemists from whom the defendant purchased the drug were a firm of high standing and quite unlikely to supply it deficient in strength. Mr. Moxon, for the defendant, intimated at the outset that his defence would rest upon a defect in the analyst's certificate—namely, that in it Mr. Jones had omitted to report specially whether any change had taken place in the constitution of the drug which would interfere with the analysis. Mr. Moxon submitted that in this case such omission was fatal, and he cited the case of *Hudson v. Bridge* (1903), 67 J.P. 186. I have referred also to the Scottish case *Hunter v. Wintrop* (1904), 42 Sec. L. R. 277. Mr. Jones, in his evidence, stated that no such change had in fact taken place. He added that he intentionally omitted so to report, because the Act requires such report in the certificate only in the case of milk, butter, or any article liable to decomposition, and he was of opinion that sweet spirit of nitre was not liable to decomposition or such change as might affect the result of his analysis. In the course of his cross-examination by Mr. Moxon and his subsequent answers to me, the word 'decomposition' was used at times somewhat ambiguously. I have therefore to say whether, upon the evidence in this case, in another case it is conceivable that conflicting scientific evidence might be given—whether the words 'an article liable to decomposition,' as used in the schedule to the Act, apply to sweet spirit of nitre. If they do, I think the omission in Mr. Jones's certificate would not be cured by his oral evidence, and that the defect would be fatal. The Act does not define the word 'decomposition.' In *Hunter v.*

Wintrup the certificate related to butter, and it was clear, therefore, that there the analyst should have reported as directed, because butter is expressly mentioned. In *Hudson v. Bridge* the certificate related to vinegar of squill, and declared it to be deficient in acetic acid. That drug, however, was stated to be liable to 'a form of decomposition which produces fungoid growth,' from which, as well as 'from evaporation and possibly also from acetylation,' the deficiency of acetic acid arose. Vinegar of squill, then, being indisputably an article liable to decomposition, it would appear to follow that the direction to the analyst ought to have been fulfilled. Further, it may be observed that the British Pharmacopoeia gives no standard of percentage of acetic acid in vinegar of squill; that a small and varying portion of the acid is lost during the process of manufacture; and that, according to the evidence in the case, the only function of the acetic acid is to extract the medicinal properties from the squill, and that the subsequent disappearance of the acid is therefore not material. It was upon this ground as to materiality, which the Justices had excluded from their consideration, that the judgments were based. I state the conclusion to which I have come in the present case with, naturally, some diffidence. I think the term 'decomposition,' used in the schedule to the Act means the breaking-up of compound substances, whether organic or inorganic, which breaking-up usually results in the formation of other compounds and sometimes in the production of the constituent elements, and that it applies not only to bacterial decomposition, but also to decomposition caused by the action of heat, light, or other agencies. But I do not think it extends to all forms and degrees of physical changes, for no substances are free from change. Even the atoms, which not long ago were said to be indivisible and indestructible, are now known to be neither. I am told, in this case, that sweet spirit of nitre is a solution of ethyl nitrite in alcohol, some other substances also being present, and that ethyl nitrite, being a very volatile substance, gradually evaporates from the mixture, but that this does not constitute a case of decomposition in the sense I have anticipated, or change which might interfere with the analysis showing what the composition of the drug was at the time when it was sold. That being so, I hold that the objection fails. It is important to health and life that drugs sold for medicinal purposes should be of standard strength, otherwise the prescribed doses obviously may fail to produce their expected effect. There must be a conviction. I impose a fine of 10s., with costs, and I allow four guineas towards the costs of the prosecution."

At the request of Mr. Moxon the Stipendiary consented to state a case.

ANOTHER SUMMONS.

At the Ludlow Borough Police Court on January 3, Ralph Scafton, chemist and druggist, Castle Street, was summoned under Section 6 of the 1875 Act for selling sweet spirit of nitre deficient of ethyl nitrite. Mr. T. Estyn Jones appeared for the defendant. It appeared from the evidence of a constable that on November 30 last he bought 4 oz. of the spirit from defendant, and Mr. Blunt, of Shrewsbury, the public analyst, certified that it only contained 1.37 per cent. of ethyl nitrite instead of 1.75. The sample had undergone no change that would make any difference to the analysis.

For the defence, Mr. Jones said he was not in a position to question the public analyst's certificate as far as the result of the analysis was concerned; but he pleaded for leniency. His client purchased the business about three months ago from the assignee of Messrs. Burnett & Pinnington, and the spirit sold was part of the stock taken over. In the store-room was a bottle labelled "B.P.," which had been received from the manufacturers, a firm in Birmingham. He did not buy it from the manufacturers direct, but purchased it from the assignee of Messrs. Burnett & Pinnington, but his client sold the drug as being of the quality required by the British Pharmacopoeia. The manufacturers also had analysed the spirit and found a deficiency in ethyl nitrite. He pointed out that there had been no fraud on Mr. Scafton's part.

Defendant, in the witness-box, confirmed Mr. Jones's statement, adding that the bottle was in the same condition as it was when received from the manufacturers, and had never been opened before, and was quite full. The firm were considered a first-class one, and one of the best in the country.

The Magistrates retired to consider the case, and on their returning the Chairman said that the Bench felt a good deal of sympathy with Mr. Scafton as he had bought the stock thinking it was correct, and it had turned

out deficient. Under these circumstances they would not record a conviction if he would pay the costs, 8s. 6d., and the analyst's fee, 10s. 6d.

[The Mayor of Ludlow (Councillor G. Woodhouse), who is a chemist in business in the borough, did not adjudicate on the case, though the solicitor for the defence said he would have raised no objection to his doing so.]

BANKRUPTCY REPORTS.

Re Thomas John Lloyd, 7 Hanbury Road, Bargoed, Glamorganshire, Manager of Drug-stores.—A full statement of this failure was given in the *C. & D.*, December 24, 1910, p. 923. The debtor was publicly examined at the Merthyr Bankruptcy Court on January 2 before the Official Receiver. The facts already reported were gone over, and the bankrupt stated that before embarking in business on his own account he had been a chemist's assistant, being apprenticed at Cardiff to Messrs. Hicks & Co., afterwards being engaged in London, Aberdare, Newport, and Pontypridd. He had not qualified as a chemist and druggist. He was also questioned by the Official Receiver as to various money transactions, including the pledging of a gold watch and chain. He had had to borrow money to keep the business going, but denied that he had not attended to business or that he had squandered money. When he left Ynysddu he was insolvent. Debtor was further questioned in regard to his spending. The Official Receiver's questions indicated that he had stayed in hotels and had spent much money in Cardiff, Newport, and London. The debtor explained as to the hotels that he got the money from his mother, and the Official Receiver asked him if that and other money should not have been devoted to paying his creditors. When he started business in Bargoed he had promised his relatives who advanced the money to sign any "reasonable document" admitting the receipt of the moneys if so desired, but when the advances were made he could not state that he had informed his relatives that he was indebted to creditors in respect of the Ynysddu business. The result was that he had contracted practically all the trade-debts at Bargoed with a knowledge of insolvency. When contracting the debt with Messrs. Butcher & Sons, Ltd., to the extent of 80% odd, he had expected an increase in business, but the fact of his owing so much money after leaving the Ynysddu business hampered him at Bargoed. The reason the stocking, etc., of the Bargoed shop was left to the one (Liverpool) firm was that they fitted the shop right through. While at Bargoed he had been troubled with writs, summonses, and executions, which he had been able to meet out of his takings there. When sued by a good many creditors in August last he admitted having sold a quantity of stuff in bulk to a man named Harris, of Cardiff, in consideration of money advanced, this consisting of goods supplied by Messrs. Butcher. He had not a list by him of the goods sold, but while at Bargoed had sold a good deal of goods at cost price, if not under. He had no records of moneys advanced him by Mr. Phillips. Debtor was then examined as to a bill of sale executed in favour of Mr. Stewart, Cardiff, it being elicited that he was served with writs, etc., between August and September last by Messrs. Faudels, Ltd., Butcher & Sons, and Edward Taylor, but debtor, on being pressed, denied having intentionally done anything with the view of defeating his creditors. Debtor then told how he had turned the business into a company last October, the shareholders, besides himself, being his uncle and brother-in-law, who held ten 1/2 shares each. He had been appointed manager at 3/1 a week. Since the flotation of the company he had kept records of the daily takings. Since that date nothing had left the shop except in the ordinary way of trade. Other questions were put to debtor regarding his spending, and he admitted having lost about 20% on the Derby in May last, but could not say which horse he backed. After a few questions by Mr. Gordon Williams, Cardiff, who appeared for debtor, the examination was provisionally closed.

WILLS PROVEN.

MR. WILLIAM WHITE, 22 Burton Street, Nottingham, veterinary chemist, who died November 6, left estate valued at 483/10s. 11d. gross, and at 463/9s. 4d. in net personalty.

MR. GEORGE DOBSON, Weston-super-Mare, managing director of the Cardiff Alkali Co., Ltd., who died June 23, left estate valued for probate at 280/1. gross, with net personalty nil.

GAZETTE.

Partnerships Dissolved.

- BENNETT, W. T., and SOLLEY, S. F., chemical-merchants, etc., Rood Lane, London, E.C., under the style of Bennett, Solley & Co.
- FIGGIS, S. H. B., and B. E., and URWICK, T. H., Colonial brokers, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C., under the style of S. Figgis & Co., so far as regards T. H. Urwick.
- GREEN, H., and STEPHENSON, R. H., veterinary surgeons, Portsmouth, under the style of Green & Stephenson.
- HUTCHINSON-LOW, R. M., and DIXON, F. J., medical practitioners, Philbeach Gardens and Cromwell Road, London, S.W., under the style of Low & Dixon.
- KING, R., and GRIFFIN, R. W., surgeon-dentists, Shrewsbury, under the style of King & Griffin.
- KNOWLES, T. F., WEIGALL, E. L., FOSTER, R., KNOWLES, J., and PETTITT, T. G., merchants and foreign bankers, Moor-gate Street, London, E.C., under the style of Knowles & Foster, so far as regards E. L. Weigall.
- MILLER-HALLETT, A., and FRY, T. H., antimony refiners and merchants, Rotherhithe Street, London, S.E., under the style of Hallett & Fry.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

RECEIVING ORDER.

SWANSON, ALEXANDER PAUL, Liverpool, surgeon.

AMENDED NOTICE.

HUGHES, GEOFFREY, Manchester, dental surgeon.

ADJUDICATIONS.

DE ST. LAURENT, E. J. SEVILLE, Mortlake, Surrey, late Saville Street, London, W., analytical chemist.

WHITE, THOMAS, the younger, Leeds, chemist and druggist.

LIMITED COMPANIES.

New Companies Registered.

The letters P.C. mean Private Company within the meaning of the Companies Act, 1907, and R.O., Registered Office.

BRITISH DYEWOOD CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 10,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business of the British Dye-wood and Chemical Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.

COYSH, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 5,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business of Coysh & Sons, Babbacombe, and to carry on the business of chemists *inter alios*.

EDINA STORES, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business carried on by G. White, drysalter, ironmonger, etc., 2 St. Peter's Buildings and 196 Morningside Road, Edinburgh.

MANCHESTER MEDICAL AGENCY, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 2,000*l.* Objects: To acquire from C. Stevenson the business of the Manchester Medical Agency, to act as transfer agents, etc. R.O., 9 Albert Square, Manchester.

PERFECTION MINERAL WATERS CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business of Bell Bros. & Bowles, Ltd., mineral-water manufacturers, York Works, New England Road, Brighton.

BRITISH ARTIFICIAL FIBRES, LTD.—Capital 30,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire F. Wiedmann's process for the manufacture of artificial silk, horsehair and similar fibres. The first directors are C. H. Palmer and C. H. Brockelbank.

WADDINGTON BROTHERS, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 5,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of soap and candle makers, glycerin-distillers, chemists, druggists, etc. The first directors are W. H. Waddington, E. N. Waddington, and J. H. Waddington. R. O., Sedgwick Street, Bradford.

FOSTER CLARK, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 100,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business carried on by G. Foster Clark & Co., Maidstone. The directors are G. F. Clark (governing director), H. C. Clark, and W. B. Clark (all permanent). G. F. Clark, as president, may appoint other persons to be directors.

WEST CUMBERLAND BY-PRODUCTS CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 50,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on at Flimby, Cumberland, and elsewhere the business of chemical-manufacturers, coal-owners, gas and coke makers, tar-producers, etc. The first directors are W. Irwin (managing director) and S. Jackson.

WALTER GREGORY & CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 5,000*l.*, in 10*l.* shares (200 pref.). Objects: To acquire and carry on the business of Walter Gregory & Co., chemists, druggists,

importers, manufacturers of and dealers in pharmaceutical, medicinal, chemical and other preparations, etc., Wellington, Somerset. The first directors are W. Gregory (permanent governing director: special qualification, 1,000*l.*), F. B. Dawson, and J. L. Gregory. R.O., 31 Fore Street, Wellington, Somerset.

F. A. ESCHBAUM, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 1,200*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of dealers in surgical articles, etc., and to acquire the business for the sale of special articles manufactured by F. A. Eschbaum, of Bonn, Germany, known as Professor Biers' Apparatus and Appliances, carried on by C. F. R. Weiss at 8 Harp Lane, E.C., as "F. A. Eschbaum." The first directors are C. F. R. Weiss (chairman) and J. Winkel. R.O., 8 Harp Lane, East-cheap, E.C.

Company News.

MALVERN MINERAL WATERS CO., LTD.—Report of liquidator (Mr. E. Amsdon) at meeting to be held at 13 and 13A East-cheap, London, E.C., on February 6, at 3 P.M.

W. J. BUSH & CO., LTD.—The directors have declared an interim dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum on the ordinary shares for the half-year ended June 30.

PARKE'S DRUG-STORES, LTD.—The report for the year ended September 30 states that the sum of 526*l.* required for the depreciation of leases has been met as usual out of revenue, as well as 864*l.* expended on repairs and renewals. The directors have appropriated out of the profits of the year 420*l.* to fixture depreciation and reserve fund. After allowing for the above, the available net balance for the year amounted to 2,631*l.*, out of which has been paid the interim dividend on the preference shares at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum. It is now recommended that a further dividend of 3 per cent., less income-tax, be paid on the preference shares, making, with the interim dividend already paid, 6 per cent. for the year, leaving a balance of 249*l.* to be carried forward. The directors regret being unable to recommend payment of any dividend on the ordinary shares for the year. Upon passing the present accounts and the adoption of the report the reserve funds will stand at 12,909*l.* The annual meeting was held at the offices, 65 Harwood Street, Kentish Town, N.W., on January 3, Mr. P. Warnford Davis presiding. In moving the adoption of the above report, which was agreed to unanimously, the Chairman said the board were somewhat disappointed with the results of the past year, and he did not regard the outlook with any great amount of encouragement. Profits had been adversely affected by continued competition, no fewer than eight drug-stores having been opened within a few yards of the company's stores. Although the opening of these particular stores will decrease profits, there is not one of them, said the Chairman, that has the slightest chance of paying. Why their competitors should continue to open these stores with public money he failed to understand. The increase in the spirit-licences had added to the expenses of the company. This item did not bear so heavily on the accounts of the past year as it will on the coming year, because in the past year only a portion of the extra duty had to be charged, whereas this year, if they were to continue selling medicated wines, the company would have to pay a largely enhanced duty over the whole period.

Charges or Mortgages.

Under the Companies (Consolidation) Act, 1908, Section 93, the mortgages or charges therein specified are (except in Scotland) void against the liquidator and any creditor of the company unless filed with the Registrar in accordance with the conditions laid down in the Act.

Full statutory particulars of the following have been filed at Somerset House, London, W.C.

Austins, Ltd.—Particulars of 600*l.* debentures created December 21, 1910, and now issued. Property charged: The company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital. No trustees.

Damar's Parc Drug Co., Ltd.—Issue on December 7, 1910, of 500*l.* debentures.

Dental Manufacturing Co., Ltd.—Mortgage and land registry charge, both dated December 15, 1910, to secure 20,000*l.* Property charged: Certain freehold lands and buildings in South Mimms, Middlesex, and leasehold premises No. 17 Newman Street, W. Holders: Prudential Assurance Co., Ltd., 142 Holborn Bars, E.C.

Tablos, Ltd.—Issue on December 17 of 300*l.* debentures.

William Wood & Son, Ltd.—Particulars of 10,000*l.* debentures created September 14, 1910. Present issue 5,000*l.* Property charged: The company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital. No trustees.

BIRTH.

IDRIS.—At 244 Camden Road, London, N.W., on December 26, 1910, the wife of William Trevena Williams Idris, chemist and druggist, director of Idris & Co., Ltd., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

CLEGG—WHITE.—At the Presbyterian Church, Ballycastle, on December 31, Stanley Hazell Clegg, chemist and druggist, 71 High Street, Oxford, to Jane White, daughter of Mr. Thomas White, The Trench, Ballycastle.

MILNE—GORING.—At Christ Church, Clapton, London, N.E., on January 2, by the Rev. E. J. Hewlett, A.K.C., Joseph Milne, chemist and druggist, Aberdeen, to Florence Rebecca, second daughter of Mr. W. J. Goring, Clapton, London.

ROTHWELL—JOHNSTON.—At Maudsley Street Church, Bolton, on December 26, 1910, William Rothwell, pharmaceutical chemist, to Annie Mary Johnston.

DEATHS.

CARDWELL.—At Woodbank, Brighouse, Yorks, on December 28, 1910, Mr. Samuel Cardwell, chemist and druggist, aged eighty-nine. Mr. Cardwell was in business for a long period in Commercial Street, Brighouse, and was succeeded on his retirement by his stepson, Mr. F. Moore Cardwell.

DOHME.—At Baltimore, on December 12, 1910, Mr. Louis Dohme, of Messrs. Sharp & Dohme, manufacturing chemists. Mr. Dohme was born in Germany in 1837 and taken to the United States early in life. He was apprenticed to Mr. A. P. Sharp in Baltimore, and graduated in 1856 from the Maryland College of Pharmacy. He was taken into partnership by his apprentice-master and devoted his energies to extending the scope of the business, with the result that Messrs. Sharp & Dohme became one of the best known in the drug-trade of America. Mr. Dohme was taken ill with neuritis while returning from his annual European trip, and died nine weeks after landing at New York. He was chairman of the company, Mr. Sharp having died some years ago. Two of his brothers (Mr. Charles Dohme and Mr. C. P. Dohme) and a nephew (Dr. A. R. L. Dohme) are members of the board of directors.

ENGELHORN.—A telegram was received this week from Mannheim by Messrs. Domeier & Co., the agents of Messrs. Boehringer & Soehne, quinine and chemical manufacturers, Mannheim-Waldhof, announcing the death, after a short illness, of Dr. Friedrich Engelhorn, sole proprietor of the firm. The late Dr. Engelhorn's connection with the business dates from 1883, at which period he entered into partnership with Mr. Ernest Boehringer, who died in September 1892. Last year the firm celebrated their jubilee, on which occasion we published particulars of their history and development.

FLEMING.—At Glasgow, on December 24, 1910, suddenly, Mr. Peter Macgregor Fleming, chemist, aged fifty-six.

HARGREAVES.—At Southend-on-Sea, recently, the widow of the late Mr. Wm. Hargreaves, the first chemist and druggist to open a pharmacy at St. Annes-on-Sea, aged seventy-four.

HORROD.—On December 27, 1910, Mr. Thomas Samuel Horrod, chemist and druggist, for over thirty years proprietor of the business of Swire & Co., 294 Brixton Hill, aged fifty-eight. Mr. Horrod was Hill's prizeman at the Minor examination in 1872.

MARSTON.—In Holloway Road, London, N., on December 31, 1910, Mr. John Thomas Marston, Ph.C., Melgund Road, London, N., aged seventy-four. Mr. Marston, who had retired from business, was attacked with heart-disease while returning home after spending Christmas at Cricklewood with his son-in-law. He died almost immediately. Mr. Marston was formerly in business at 44 Cophall Avenue, E.C., which his son still conducts.

REED.—On December 26, 1910, Mr. John Wm. Reed, chemist and druggist, of Hull, aged forty-nine.

RICHTER.—At Gera, near Leipzig, on December 25, 1910, as the result of an operation. Geh. Kommerzienrat Dr. Adolf Richter, aged sixty-four. Dr. Richter was the proprietor of Richter & Co., of Rudolstadt, makers of pharmaceutical specialties, being one of the first to take up this business on a large scale. Richter's "Pain Expeller" enjoyed a large sale in German pharmacies until this and other specialties made by Dr. Richter were placed on the Bundesrat list of specialties, regarding which advertising is forbidden.

TWENLOW.—At St. Augustine's Road, Cheadle Heath, Stockport, on December 20, 1910, Mr. Richard Twenlow, chemist and druggist, aged sixty-three.

WEEDING.—At Southampton, recently, Mrs. Weeding, widow of Mr. Weeding, chemist and druggist, for many years in business at High Street, Cowes (I.W.), aged eighty-seven.

PERSONALITIES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

MR. RICHARD STURTON, chemist and druggist, has been returned unopposed to fill a casual vacancy on the Cambs County Council.

MR. R. F. STROUD, formerly of Market Deeping, is now overseer of one of the farms of the A. M. Todd Co., Kalamazoo, Mich., U.S.A.

MISS MABEL CLARKE, youngest daughter of Mr. R. T. Clarke, chemist, 131 Milton Road, Gravesend, obtained the diploma of Licentiate of the Royal Academy of Music at the recent Christmas examination in singing (soprano).

MR. FRED CHILD, Waterloo, Liverpool, who represents the Toilet Soap Department of Messrs. Armour & Co., Ltd., London, in the North of England, was installed as Worshipful Master of Lodge Unity No. 613, Southport, last month.

MISS BRIDGET SHANNON, daughter of Mr. R. J. Shannon, pharmacist (of Messrs. S. Maw, Son & Sons), has been engaged by Mr. Thomas Quinlan as a principal soprano. She will play Olympia in "Hoffmann's Tales" at the Grand Theatre, Fulham, next week.

SEVERAL members of the Dartford staff of Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co. have recently completed 21 years' service with the firm, and on Wednesday, January 4, Mr. G. E. Pearson, the general manager, on behalf of the firm, presented a gold watch to each of the following: Miss Clara Pierce, Miss Adelaide Standen, Miss Roberta Standen, Miss Emma Crook, Mr. Herbert E. Russell, and Mr. John Thomas Jacobs. Each watch bore an appropriate inscription.

At the close of the annual stocktaking at Messrs. Bleasdale's, Ltd., York, Mr. Joseph Puckering, chief warehouseman, who has been with the company and its predecessors for forty-nine years and is retiring, was presented with a silver tea-service. Practically everyone connected with the company subscribed to the gift. Mr. A. Humphreys, managing director, made the presentation. Mr. Chas. Collins, the senior traveller, also spoke, and Mr. Puckering, in replying, received a very hearty reception.

"VARIOUS theories are advanced to account for the success of Eno, no one of which is entirely satisfactory," says "Printers' Ink."

A GIRL was working in an American drug-store for an old gentleman who had had an attack of nervous prostration. She was very busy one day, and in moving quickly around the end of the counter her skirt brushed against some cans and bottles on an open shelf and made a little disturbance. In the frazzled state of his nerves the commotion startled the proprietor so that he involuntarily exclaimed, "Confound it! Why don't you wear trousers!" There was a moment of horrified silence in which they both stared at each other, and then the tension was relieved by a laugh from both.

BUSINESS CHANGES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

BOOTS, LTD., have taken premises at 1137 Chester Road, Stretford, Manchester.

MR. STEWART, chemist and druggist, has opened new premises at 59 Sheen Lane, Richmond-on-Thames.

MESSRS. CLEGG & SON, chemists, Wantage, have purchased the business of **Mr. J. W. Todd, Ph.C.**, at 71 High Street, Oxford.

MESSRS. WIDENMANN, BROICHER & Co., 33 Lime Street, E.C., have admitted **Mr. Wolfgang Broicher**, son of their senior, as partner.

MESSRS. HERVEY PEEK & HERFORD, manufacturing chemists, Ordsal Lane, Salford, Manchester, have taken into partnership **Mr. James Philip Hervey**.

MR. H. F. LOWRANCE has purchased the business of **Messrs. Williams & Burridge** at 24 West Street, Havant, which he will carry on under the old name.

MR. GEORGE BERNARD JOHNSON has been admitted a partner in the firm of **Messrs. J. H. & S. Johnson**, wholesale druggists and manufacturing chemists, 7 Church Street, Liverpool.

MR. F. W. ASHTON, Ph.C., who has been representing **Messrs. Idris & Co., Ltd.**, in the country for the last thirteen years, has been appointed manager of the company's sales' department.

MESSRS. ARBUTHNOT, LATHAM & Co., 33 Great St. Helens, London, E.C., announce that **Mr. Ashley Herbert Arbuthnot**, son of their **Mr. Herbert Robinson Arbuthnot**, has been admitted a partner.

MR. R. JOHNSON, chemist and druggist, has transferred his business from 133 to 91 Wellington Road, New Wortley, Leeds. **Mr. Johnson** has been in business in this thoroughfare for twenty-eight years.

MR. JOHN J. WRIGHT has become manager to **Messrs. Roberts & Hill**, manufacturers of the "Poodle" brand of Chien-Chien cachous and chewing-gum, whose headquarters are at 9 Farringdon Avenue, London, E.C.

THE Sloane Pharmacy, Sloane Square, have taken new premises at 29 King's Road, Sloane Square, which are being fitted in modern style, the work having been entrusted to **Messrs. Davies Brothers**, of Walthamstow.

MESSRS. CLARKE & SMITH, Idol Lane House, 40 Eastcheap, London, E.C., intimate that **Mr. John Bamford Smith**, son of their **Mr. Walter Smith**, for several years associated with the business, has been admitted a partner.

MESSRS. C. F. BOEHRINGER & SOHNE, Mannheim-Waldhof, have appointed **Messrs. Domeier & Co.**, 8 Harp Lane, London, E.C., as their sole agents for Scotland, their agreement with **Messrs. F. R. Mueller & Co.**, Glasgow, having terminated.

MATTHEWS (CASH CHEMISTS), LTD., have taken premises on The Promenade, Golder's Green, London, N.W., which **Messrs. Sangers** are fitting. The company has also recently acquired the freehold of its Windmore Hill premises and increased its capital from 3,000*l.* to 5,000*l.*

MESSRS. TOZER, KEMSLEY & FISHER, LTD., 84 Fenchurch Street, E.C., announce that **Mr. H. E. Fisher**, who has been a director of the company from its inception, retires from active co-operation owing to ill-health, but will retain the same share and interest in the company as in the past.

MR. G. FOSTER CLARK, proprietor of Eiffel Tower lemonade, Ju-vis, etc., announces that he has decided for family reasons to convert his business into a private limited-liability company, but there will be no public issue of shares. The style of the new company will be "Foster Clark, Ltd."

MESSRS. KNOWLES & FOSTER, merchants, 48 Moorgate Street, E.C., announce the retirement of **Mr. Edward Lacy Weigall**, who has been a partner in their firm since 1889. The business will be continued by **Thomas Foster Knowles**, **Richard Foster**, **John Knowles**, and **Thomas Geoffrey Pettitt**.

MESSRS. S. FIGGIS & Co., 44 and 45 Fenchurch Street, E.C., announce with regret that **Mr. Thos. H. Urwick** is retiring from business, and that his interest and responsi-

bility in their firm has now ceased. The business will be continued as hitherto, and **Messrs. A. H. Punnett**, **Richard Wright**, and **Aubrey F. C. Walker**, who have actively assisted the firm on the market for a long time, and **Mr. J. Maurice Figgis**, youngest son of their senior, have been admitted into partnership.

MESSRS. RASPE & PASCHEN announce that following the demise of their **Mr. Max Paschen**, their Hamburg and London firms have arranged to separate, and the interests and responsibility of their present partner, **Mr. Adolf Amann**, cease in the Hamburg firm, which will be continued by **Mr. Walter Radbruch**. All existing contracts entered into by the London firm will be taken over and duly carried out by **Messrs. Raspe & Co.**, which firm has been joined in partnership by **Mr. Adolf Amann**.

TRADE NOTES.

MR. WM. HY. BOWLING, of Dimona Pharmacy, Pembroke Dock, is putting on the market the "Dimona" Shave-less Soap, which is quite a novelty for chemists to handle, and may be obtained from **Sutton & Co.**

S. & M. FEEDERS.—An advertisement in this issue emphasises the fact that the design is registered of **Messrs. Savory & Moore's "Valveless Feeder."** Attention to this point may save trouble in the future.

MESSRS. JOHN GOSNELL & Co., LTD., 211-215 Blackfriars Road, London, S.E., have recently completed the 150th year of their existence in business, and have issued a very dainty souvenir card, showing their fine premises illuminated on a moonlight night.

OPTICAL GOODS.—**Mr. John Baird**, wholesale optician, 68 and 70 Mitchell Street, Glasgow, gives in this issue an illustration of the new keratometer, particulars of which he is prepared to send to any chemist who applies. **Mr. Baird** also calls attention to his new plastic window-model and new series of window-tickets.

THE NUVITÉ CO., LTD., Norwich, whose London offices are at Danes House, Strand, W.C., intimate that they have just had their first delivery of a quarter of a million bottles of Nuvité, "the wine that gives new life." This is to be well advertised, and chemists who have wine-licences should communicate with the company as to the terms on which it is supplied.

"ALL ABOUT METHYLATED SPIRIT" is the title of a pamphlet issued by **Messrs. A. Macnair & Co.**, Dolphin Street, Ardwick Green, Manchester. The firm are makers of methylated spirit, and the booklet is a useful summary of the regulations regarding the sale and storage of the two kinds of S.V.M. A copy will be sent to any of our readers who send post-card applications to **Messrs. Macnair**.

SEED-CATALOGUE.—The approach of spring makes it necessary that those chemists who sell seeds and other garden requisites should get their stock in order. The new "List of Tested Seeds" issued by **Messrs. William Conway & Sons, Ltd.**, Halifax, will assist chemist-seedsmen in making selections of the most saleable varieties. The list can be had for the asking.

A WINDOW-DISPLAY OF GOODS is one of the best means of judging their public attractiveness. **Messrs. C. R. Harker**, **Stagg & Morgan, Ltd.**, Emmott Street, Mile End, London, E., exemplify this in a remarkably good, though conventional, display by **Mr. W. Wigglesworth**, of Slough, who devoted his window entirely to packed goods which he obtained from **Messrs. Harker, Stagg & Morgan**. The latter invite *C. & D.* readers to write to them for a copy of their new illustrated price-list of packed specialities.

POTTER'S PACKED GOODS.—**Messrs. Potter & Clarke, Ltd.**, 60-64 Artillery Lane, London, E., have issued the first number of their 1911 illustrated price-list of packed goods and specialities. There is a wide choice of lines suitable for winter sale, and the illustrations give a clear idea of the style and get-up of each article. Among the new lines are chest and lung wafers, "Limpettes" (the new corn-plaster), and anti-fat pills (new form). All the products are dealt with in alphabetical order, and a complete index to the fifty-two pages comprising the list enumerates practically 300 items.

NEW YEAR GREETINGS.—The following firms, supplementary to those who were mentioned in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* of December 31, express to all in the drug-trade, through our advertising-pages, their best wishes for the New Year: Messrs. H. Bronnley & Co., Acton Vale, London, W.; Johann Maria Farina, Gegenüber dem Jülich-Platz, Cologne (and their agents, J. & R. McCracken); C. R. Harker, Stagg & Morgan, Ltd., Devon Wharf, Emmott Street, Mile End, London, E.; Thomas & William Henry, 11 East Street, St. Peter's, Manchester; and Schliemann's Oil and Ceresine Co., Ltd., 23 Leadenhall Street, London, E.C.

IMPORTANT AMALGAMATION.—Messrs. Marshalls, Ltd., have acquired the specialities, trade-marks, formulae, and trading-rights of Messrs. Lorimer & Co., Ltd., and in future the business will be conducted from Colebrooke Works, Islington, London, N., as Lorimer Marshall. The amalgamated business will be under the management of Mr. E. Marshall, Ph.C., the founder of the business of Marshalls, Ltd., which has developed and extended greatly under his guidance, and he will in the amalgamated concern retain most of the Lorimer staff. Mr. Charles Harris, who has been the manager of the Colebrooke Row business, will retain that position with Mr. Marshall, and Mr. A. J. Boulton, the principal traveller, will continue on his old ground. An announcement regarding the amalgamation is made in our Coloured Supplement this week.

POISONING FATALITIES.

SEVEN fatalities, including one misadventure, have been reported since our last issue:

Laudanum.—Frederick Graham (54), cement-works manager, of Mitcheldean, died in a Gloucester hotel from an overdose of laudanum taken in addition to trional to induce sleep. At the inquest the Coroner, in addressing the jury, said that the condition of the cork of the laudanum-bottle would lead one to surmise that deceased had taken several small doses of that drug to enhance the effect of the sleeping-powder, rather than that he had taken the bottleful at one time. It was very likely that he was ignorant of the fact that he had a weak heart, as many people were, and also that laudanum was a dangerous thing for him to take even in small quantities.—At Sheffield a printer's foreman named Willsay Denis Kirk, died from laudanum-poisoning. An open verdict was returned.

Narcotic-poisoning.—At the inquiry into the death of Dr. Edgar R. S. Lipscombe (51), who poisoned himself at Balham Hill, the medical witnesses agreed that death was caused by a narcotic poison. Deceased had been suffering from a nervous breakdown. Dr. Freyberger said that analysis would not carry the case much further, especially as the clinical appearances were characteristic of morphine poisoning. Death was not due to an overdose of paraldehyde which his medical attendant had prescribed as a hypnotic.

Oxalic-acid poisoning caused the self-inflicted death of Lily Mary Rewell (37), the wife of a sailor, who died in the West London Hospital.

Potassium cyanide was used for suicidal purposes by Albert Ed. Fretwell, clerk, Portsmouth. Inquiries failed to show where deceased obtained the poison.

Spirit of Salt was taken to ensure self-destruction by Catharine Moore (19), of Marylebone, and Elizabeth Prime (53), of St. Pancras.

GERMAN POTASH SALTS.—The Deutsche Kaliwerke have absorbed an important Alsatian business, the Amelie Mining Co., at a cost of over 1,250,000*l.*, and will increase its share capital by 450,000*l.* to 1,200,000*l.* The Amelie Co. is closely connected with a number of other potash-mining concerns, and the increase in the business of the German Potash-works is considerable. Both companies are connected with the Deutsche Bank.

A **DISCLAIMER** is sent to "The Lancet" by Professors R. J. Harvey-Gibson, W. A. Herdman, B. Moore, J. Reynolds Green, and C. S. Sherrington, of Liverpool University, regarding a volume entitled "Induced Cell Division and Cancer," by Mr. H. C. Ross and Dr. J. W. Cropper. They say that, "having had no opportunity of seeing the work previous to publication, either in manuscript or in proof, they think it only fair to disclaim any responsibility for the statements made and the conclusions arrived at by the authors."

New German Pharmacopoeia.

Notes on the Chemical Monographs.

THE expressions adopted by the German Pharmacopoeia in the tests for purity, and indicated in brackets in the original text, do not refer merely to the substance mentioned: "If the presence of an anion is to be revealed the name of the respective acid is given in brackets, and in the case of a kation the name of the element with the addition 'salts,' or 'compounds.'" Thus the reference to hydrochloric acid *per se* does not mean necessarily the free acid, but corresponds to the B.P. designation "chlorides."

In the following notes we compare the principal recommendations formulated by the Committee of Reference in Pharmacy with regard to the new edition of the B.P. and the corresponding requirements adopted by the new P.G. (*C. & D.*, February 20, 1909, p. 268; July 2, 1910, p. 20):

	B.P. Proposals.	P.G.
Acidum arseniosum ...	Formula As ₂ O ₅	As ₄ O ₆
Acidum citricum ...	Test for lead	An aqueous solution (1+9) should not be altered within half-an-hour by the addition of solution of barium nitrate.
Acidum tartaricum ...	Test for lead	Exactly the same as for acid. citricum.
Bismuthi subnitras ...	79 to 82 % oxide	79 to 82 % bismuth oxide on ignition
Bismuthi salicylas ...	62 to 65 % oxide	At least 63 % bismuth oxide on ignition
Chloroform ...	With addition of 2% of ethylic alcohol	0.6 to 1 % absolute alcohol
*Cocaine hydrochloridum ...	Melting-point 180°-166°	M.p. 183°
Ferrum redactum ...	80 % of Fe	90 % metallic iron
Hydrargyri oxid. flav.	Non-volatile residuum 0.5 %	Not more than 0.1 %
Hydrargyri oxid. rub.	Non-volatile residuum 0.3 %	Not more than 0.1 %
Hydrargyri perchlor...	Sol. 1 in 18 water; 1 in 4 alcohol	1 in 16 water; 1 in 3 alcohol
Hydrargyri subchlor...	Water shaken with it not darkened by H ₂ S	Alcohol 69 % shaken with it should not be altered by H ₂ S, or become more than slightly opalescent on the addition of solution of silver nitrate
Iodum ...	99 % pure	At least 99 % iodine

* The proposed cinnamyl-cegonim test is the same as adopted by the P.G.

Hydrargyrum Oxydatum.—Red mercuric oxide should not contain any of the yellow variety: on letting a mixture of 1 gram of red mercuric oxide stand for one hour at ordinary temperature, frequently shaking, with 10 c.c. of oxalic acid solution (1+9), no appreciable change of colour should occur. Yellow mercuric oxide, a formula for the preparation of which is given, must gradually convert itself into a white crystalline powder on shaking with solution of oxalic acid.

Hydrargyrum Salicylicum.—Mercury salicylate contains 92 per cent. of pure salt, equal to 54.7 per cent. of mercury. It is the only salt of mercury for which an assay process is given: 0.3 gram is dissolved in dilute solution of sodium hydroxide, the solution is acidified with acetic acid and 25 c.c. of N/10 iodine solution is added, the whole is allowed to stand for 3 hours, and then titrated with N/10 sodium thio-sulphate, and should require of the latter at the utmost 8.6 c.c.—1 c.c. of N/10 iodine solution=0.0100 gram of mercury; starch solution as indicator.

Hydrogenium Peroxydatum Solutum.—Should contain at least 3 per cent. by weight of hydrogen peroxide. Tested for the presence of barium and oxalic acid. To neutralise the free acid present in 50 c.c. of solution of hydrogen peroxide not more than 2.5 c.c. of N/10 KOH should be required, using phenolphthalein as indicator. On evaporating 20 c.c. on the water-bath not more than 0.02 gram of residue should remain. The method of determination is based on that of Kingzett: 10 grams of H₂O₂ solution is distilled with water to 100 c.c., to 10 c.c. of this solution are added 5 c.c. of dilute sulphuric acid and 10 c.c. of potassium-iodide solution (1+9), and the mixture allowed to stand for half-an-hour in a closed flask. To bind the liberated iodine at least 17.7 c.c. of N/10 sodium-thiosulphate solution should be required, 1 c.c. of the latter corresponding to 0.0017 gram of H₂O₂, using solution of starch as indicator.

Iodoformium.—Melting-point about 120°. On ignition should not leave more than 0.1 per cent. residue; and on drying over sulphuric acid for 24 hours 1 gram of iodoform should not lose more than 0.01 gram in weight.

Iodum.—To contain 99 per cent. iodine. 1 c.c. N/10 sodium-thiosulphate solution corresponds to 0.01269 gram iodide; starch solution as indicator.

(To be continued.)

Almanacks and Diaries.

THE small card calendar sent out by Messrs. Fairchild Bros. & Foster is, as usual, a fine specimen of the engraver's art. The combination of parchment colour and pink used in reproduction is particularly effective. The calendar for the year occupies the lower half of the card.

MR. J. D. PETRIE, The Pharmacy, Blairgowrie, has published a wall-calendar (10 by 54), which has on the upper part a pretty coloured sunset view and below a monthly tear-off calendar. The calendar is neatly produced on a cream-coloured card.

MESSRS. POTTER & CLARKE, LTD., 60 to 64 Artillery Lane, London, E., are sending out a wall-calendar with monthly tear-off leaves. The card is in red, and on the reverse is printed a list of antidotes to poisons—a handy thing to have by one for reference.

THE almanack for 1911 sent out by Mr. Gibson, manufacturing chemist, Gooch Street, Birmingham, marks the forty-sixth year of publication. The novel feature of the almanack is that the advertisements are printed in red and black. The cover is in white and brown.

THE QUEEN'S VIEW of Loch Tummel appears on the calendar sent out by Mr. H. Stacey Hall, pharmacist, Medlock Street, Hulme, Manchester. The calendar portion is fixed on the front of a pocket, which can be used as a resting-place for letters. The whole card measures 11 in. by 8 in.

MESSRS. HARRISON & WAIDE, chemists' printers, Leeds, issue a card calendar, 12 in. by 9 in. The prevailing colour is green, relieved by red and yellow. The calendar is on monthly tear-offs, but that for the whole year is also given, which is a convenience when one wishes to refer to the months that have passed.

MESSRS. BELL & SON, chemists and opticians, Stapleford, Notts, have this year doubled the size of the almanack which they distribute to their customers. Some interesting notes on the history of Stapleford are one of the features of the well-arranged pages. The issue of the almanack is found to be an excellent advertisement.

MR. MAJOR HILL, chemist and druggist, 109 Norfolk Street, Wisbech, again issues a smartly produced annual. The cover is attractively printed in red, blue, and green, with a photograph of the pharmacy in the centre. Mr. Hill's malted food is well advertised by means of photographs of chubby children, and there is plenty of information, attractively put, regarding the other special preparations of the firm.

MR. J. SPENCER PALMER, High Street, Thornbury, has issued his "Household Almanac and Handbook of Domestic and Useful Information," the circulation of which is 3,000 copies. Mr. Palmer obtains for it a good number of advertisements from local traders, and does not forget to let the public know what are his special lines. Mr. Palmer is a dentist as well as a chemist, and has a rather unusual side-line—the sale and repair of violins.

MESSRS. DIXON & SONS, chemists, East Grinstead, have sent us a copy of "Dixon's East Grinstead Family Almanack for 1911," which also contains a local directory. The business is carried on by Mr. W. H. Dixon and his sons, Mr. W. R. Dixon and Mr. P. G. Dixon, at High Street and London Road, the price-list in the almanack being one of the contributing features of the success which has been attained. Messrs. Dixon's specialities are prominently mentioned in the almanack, and the aerated-water factory is the subject of one of the three half-tone engravings.

MR. SAMUEL LAWRENCE, 101 George Street, Oban, sends us a copy of his 1911 almanack, which is one of the most original we have received so far this season. The whole of the almanack is locally produced, no stock matter being employed in the "make-up." Local information is given which should be useful to both residents and visitors. The advertisements refer chiefly to Mr. Lawrence's own preparations or special agencies, and we note that the newest proprietary is "Adeo" boot-polish. As usual there is a missing-letter competition, which effectually ensures the perusal of the advertisements. The circulation of the almanack is over 7,000 copies.



Postal Address:

C. & D. INFORMATION DEPARTMENT, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Telegraphic Address: "CHEMICUS LONDON."

Telephone No.: BANK 852 (two lines).

The object of this Department is to supply names and addresses of Manufacturers of, or Agents for, goods pertaining to the Chemical, Drug and Allied Trades. The "Buyers' Guide" in each issue of "The Chemist and Druggist" affords much information, out inquiries for anything not referred to therein may be addressed to this Department. Replies will be furnished immediately, or inserted in this section free of charge.

INFORMATION WANTED.

We would be obliged if any reader would inform us by post-card or telephone who are the makers or agents of the articles mentioned in the following inquiries received since our last issue:

- 127/72. "Tepol" toilet-cream.
- 123/25. "Pilopin" hair-restorer.
- 150/551. "Papier Bayna": supply.
- 136/34. Cannabinol: actual makers.
- 154/51. "Ox-gall Cream": makers.
- 130/49. Davidson Rubber Co.'s agents.
- 136/1. Address of "Pir's Medicine Co."
- 143/12. "Fontoline" toilet-preparations.
- 131/5. "Sevic" pills, No. 1 and No. 2.
- 150/55. "Ozonoderium Franz Brantwein."
- 134/63. "Biltong" or "Belletongue" syrup.
- 126/15. Marbella's auto-rheumatic treatment.
- 148/68. "Phosphino" (in 1-oz. bottles): makers.
- 148/46. "Louisine" oiled silk substitute: actual makers.
- 67/7. "Grisel oil," a Java mineral oil for use in printing ink.
- 153/1. "Charles Heaton's Peppermint Lozenges": maker.

INFORMATION SUPPLIED.

During the past week we have answered inquiries regarding the following articles. The information will be repeated to any other inquirers who send to the Department a stamped and addressed envelope for the purpose.

- Alumina sulphate: manufacturers for export (149/41).
- Antiformin: selling agents (150/64).
- Antitussin: supply (152/27).
- "Atlas" chemical preparations (145/70).
- Bandages, surgical: Lancashire makers (150/56).
- Barker's vibrators: maker (150/63).
- Belgian castor oil: importers (150/263).
- Blue vitriol: first-hand supply (149/23).
- Blyton Astley's address (153/11).
- Brompton Hospital cough specific: makers (148/8).
- Carabana water: importers (151/61).
- Castor oil (British): pressers and refiners (150/26).
- Citronella oil (Java): suppliers (148/6).
- Claremont's Savon de Lys: proprietor (151/28).
- Clayton's sulphur rat-killing apparatus: makers (150/23).
- Dentistry instruction (151/2).
- Dried milk: makers (151/67).
- Eetodyne: makers (153/110).
- Fleming's quinine and camphor pills: proprietors (148/81).
- Goddard's plate-powder: maker and London agents (152/27).
- Grinding mills: makers (146/70).
- Hanson's indigestion cure: makers (135/24).
- Hockin's seidlitz-powders: makers (148/82).
- Italian castor oil: presser and agents (150/251).
- MacKenzie's food-products: makers and agents (151/30).
- MacKenzie Medicine Co.'s preparations: agents (151/8).
- Mortars and pestles, brass and cast iron: makers (149/17).
- Niblett's pharmaceutical machinery: makers (146/58).
- Oxide of tin: first-hand supply (149/24).
- Parfum à la Corbeille Fleurie: makers and agents (150/30).
- Payan's toilet articles: maker and agent (150/55).
- Perfumed flannel (by the yard): suppliers (148/19).
- Polivit: makers (135/24).
- Prockter's cloth-cleaner: maker (152/46).
- "Pyno" preparation: makers (151/59).
- "Pvny-Pectoral": makers (151/591).
- Red Cross embrocation: supply (152/27).
- "Refereda" invalid reading-desk: supply (152/2).

OBSERVATIONS & REFLECTIONS.

By Xrayser II.

"The Same to You!"

May I, on behalf of readers of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, and on my own behalf, reciprocate the good-will that prompted the leading article and the three dozen advertisements that appeared in your last issue? The confidence expressed in your article for the New Year, and the ardent hopes for a decade of progress, profit, and contentment, find echoes all over the country, and I know that many thousands of chemists throughout the world will join with me in wishing the C. & D. a Prosperous New Year.

Unqualified Dealers in Poisons

have not been long in making up their minds to demand a modification of the restrictions placed on the conduct of their new business. In a recent observation in this column I anticipated that some move would be made in this direction, but I did not expect it to be made quite so soon. Clearly Mr. Glyn-Jones, M.P., is going to have his work cut out for him. If it lies in the power of the Privy Council to modify the Act by altering the conditions under which licences are granted, and in this back-door way give these dealers an absolutely free hand, the mischief already done may be increased a hundredfold. Surely, nothing so unconstitutional could be attempted as to alter settled law by a resolution of the Privy Council. Meantime I would like to ask what the Pharmaceutical Councillors are doing. Here is a question—and the sale of medicated wines is another—in the solution of which they will, I hope, justify their existence by taking a hand. Or will they leave it to be fought, as so many other causes have been fought—and won—by an independent trade journal?

"The Triumph of the Teapot"

which your Paris correspondent announces, has come late in France, and is due, no doubt, mainly to English influence. But although tea, from the first more of a beverage than a medicine with us, has long been regarded by our neighbours in precisely the opposite way, it was originally introduced into France, as here, more as a pleasant and restorative drink than as a drug. Lemery, although he classes it among drugs, and enumerates its many medicinal virtues, states that it is more frequently used "pour le délice que pour la médecine." For the latter purpose he prescribes about a dram infused in a pound [livre] of hot water for half an hour, and taken, while still hot, in several doses. Tea was included in the Paris Codex, but never found its way into our Pharmacopœias, although our doctors recommended it much as did Lemery. Alleyne, following Schröder, adds rheums, catarrhs, and several other ailments to the list of those for which it is efficacious, and says it is one of the best, pleasantest, and safest herbs that ever were introduced into food or medicine. He recommends that it be taken in the morning as a stimulant, and immediately after dinner (midday) as a digestive, but not at all at night, since it prevents sleep. In diarrhoea and dysentery another medical writer of the time prescribes $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of tea in $\frac{1}{2}$ pint of milk, sweetened with 2 oz. of fine sugar. This is a single dose. We learn from Addison and Congreve that tea was usually drunk in the morning and directly after dinner; and Prior, in one of his poems, tells us of a young lover who "drank a quart of milk and tea," but whether his passion had thrown him into a flux or not he does not say.

If the Education of the Wholesaler

is going to be taken up seriously in French schools of pharmacy, the probability is that the example may some day be followed in this country. No one can deny that such education, if it is properly gone about, would be for the interests of the trade in every department, manufacturing as well as distributing; but I think I know what Mr. David Howard, for instance, would say of a proposal to educate young men in a school laboratory and warehouse, and on such tuition to turn them out as competent wholesale assistants. He would agree with M. Baube that the actual workshop, warehouse, and manufacturing laboratory are the places where alone efficient assistants can be trained, and I fear he would smile if he were asked to give an assistant who had not had the practical training a position on the strength of his school "certificate." This idea may do for certain superfine pharmacists in the retail trade, where apprenticeship is often despised, but the wholesaler knows a thing or two.

Your Australian Correspondent's Interesting Letter

scarcely touches the point of my remarks on the commercial-traveller tax, which, indeed, did not refer at all either to Australia or to New Zealand. It is reasonable enough that commercial travellers, like other men, should pay income-tax in the countries in which their income is earned, but income-tax, though it applies to commercials, is not a tax on them in the particular sense intended. It simply puts the foreigner (as your correspondent says) on the same level as the local man. The taxes to which your article and my comments referred were, however, applicable not to the native, but to the foreign traveller only; they were not dependent on the income earned, or proportionate to the amount of business done—they were fixed imposts, varying in different countries from a few pounds to the enormous sum of 147l. per annum, and, whatever their intention, it is pretty certain that in many cases they must be prohibitive. Their stupidity, even from the fiscal point of view is evident: they must prevent the importation of many taxable commodities which, in the aggregate, would yield a bigger income than they, and they are certain to be a serious check on the opening out of fresh business centres in new countries. They ought at least to be useful as an object-lesson teaching the essential folly of taxes on trade.

Unworthy Pretenders to Physic

are, says Thomas Fuller. "rather foils than stains to the profession. . . Well did the poets feign Aesculapius and Circe brother and sister, and both children of the Sun; for in all times, in the opinion of the multitude, witches, old women, and impostors have had a competition with the physicians." And of apothecaries, too, he has but a poor opinion, though he admits that many are able and honest, for some are ignorant and more are dishonest, "selling to sick folk for new money antiquated drugs, and making dying men's physic of dead ingredients." Bishop Earle, a contemporary of Fuller's, is equally severe on physicians, or at least on the ordinary physician. "The best Cures he has done are upon his own purse, which from a lean sickness he hath made lusty and in flesh. . . His learning consists much in reckoning up the hard names of diseases, and the superscriptions of Gally-pots in his Apothecaries Shoppe, which are rank'd in his Shelves and the Doctors memory. He is indeed only languag'd in diseases, and speaks Greeke many times when he knows it not. . . Of all odors he likes best the smel of Urine, and holds l'espasians rule, that no gaine is unsavory. . . If he see you himself his presence is the worst visitation, for if he cannot heale your sickness he will be sure to helpe it. . . His most unfaithful act is that he leaves a man gasping, and his pretence is, death and he have a quarrel, and must not meet; but his feare is least the Carcase should bleed." Yet bad as is the physician the surgeon is no better: "He differs from the physician as the sore from the disease, or the sick from those that are not whole; the one distempers you within, the other blisters you without."

SANITAS

Calendars for 1911

Few now remain, and Chemists desiring copies are asked to kindly let us hear at once.

The "SANITAS" CO., Ltd.

:: Disinfectant Manufacturers, ::
LIMEHOUSE, LONDON, E.

WARRICK BROTHERS.

WILCOX, JOZEAU & CO.
49 Haymarket, London, SW
Importers and Exporters of

FRENCH and all FOREIGN PROPRIETARY MEDICINES

Price List on Application
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"MILK OF MAGNESIA"

(Registered Trade Mark)
(PHILLIPS')

For special terms apply to THE CHARLES H. PHILLIPS CHEMICAL CO.,
14 Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, W.C.

S.V.M.

METHYLATED SPIRIT
Also RECTIFIED SPIRIT.
S.V.R.

Jas. Burrough Ltd. D.I. Cale Distillery, Hutton Road,
LAMBETH, S.E.

GRIMBLE'S MALT VINEGAR

London, Edinburgh & Bristol.

FLETCHERS' FOR TINCTURES, INFUSIONS,
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LIQUORS

Editorial Articles.

The Minor Examination.

THE Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain has decided, before voting upon its Committee's scheme for a division of the Minor examination and a curriculum of study, to submit the particulars to all chemists' associations in Great Britain. We print the proposed scheme elsewhere in this issue, and we may say at the outset that we do not consider a curriculum of study either desirable or necessary at the present time for registration as chemist and druggist. We should like this fact to be kept in view, because any criticism or suggestions which we may make regarding the scheme now submitted must not be taken to imply agreement with the scheme. It is already known that the Boards of Examiners in England and Scotland were not agreed as to the scheme that should be put forward. The English scheme when it was submitted was stated by Mr. C. B. Allen to be "ideal," and others agreed. After attempts to get the Boards into agreement, Mr. Currie, the Vice-President of the Society, took the matter in hand, and the scheme now submitted was provided by him. It is substantially on the lines of the recommendations made by a committee of the Council in March 1883, and reprinted in the *C. & D.*, April 23, 1910, p. 623, but there are points of difference. The main fact is that the Minor examination is to be divided into two parts, viz.:

(1) An Intermediate Examination (which is to be in writing) in botany and chemistry, to be passed any time subsequent to registration as a student of pharmacy, after the candidate has attended specified numbers of lectures in botany, chemistry and physics, and practical work in botany and chemistry. The examination in these subjects will be of the same range as the present Minor syllabus, with certain exceptions in chemistry and physics and practical chemistry, which will be transferred to the

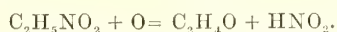
(2) Final Examination, which is to be taken any time three years after registration as a student and, of course, subsequent to the Intermediate examination and instruction by lectures and demonstrations and practical work in materia medica, pharmacy, prescription Latin, and dispensing. This examination is to be oral and practical, and in Practical Pharmacy and Dispensing a certain amount of chemical work is to be included.

While we agree that it will eventually be desirable to have an interval of three years between registration as a student and entering for the Final Examination, we would point out that in Medicine when conditions such as these were first imposed, power was reserved for ante-dating, and we think this practice should be reserved by the Pharmaceutical Council. With such power the Council might, for a period of ten years or even more, consider special cases

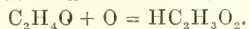
in which for some extraordinary reasons the three years' engagement under the supervision of a registered chemist has been in part taken prior to registration as a student. The power was of much value in Medicine, and would be so in Pharmacy as well. It would be of real service in the case of pharmacy students who come from other parts of the British Empire to get the home qualification. It will also be necessary for the educational institutions which at present undertake the tuition of students of pharmacy to see that their position is made secure, and it would be better to do this while the scheme is under consideration by local associations. We see no reason why the Council should not, before the scheme advances to the by-law stage, give the Principals of private schools some assurance that they will be recognised. The whole scheme in its details, its cost to candidates, and its probable bad influence on the retail drug trade, requires most serious attention.

Sweet Spirit of Nitre.

THE decision of the Stipendiary Magistrate at Hanley in the sweet spirit of nitre case, heard there on December 19 last, is unfortunate; but on consideration of the evidence (see *C. & D.*, December 24, p. 922) it is not surprising that he hesitated in arriving at the conclusion that spirit of nitre is not liable to decomposition, for that evidence dealt solely with evaporation of volatile active constituents, and, in his opinion, evaporation is not decomposition. The defence had asked dismissal of the summons, on the ground that the public analyst had not stated in his certificate that the article is liable to decomposition, and the decision in *Hudson v. Bridge* was quoted in support of this contention. The public analyst stated in the witness-box that the decomposition provision of the 1878 Act applies solely to butter and milk. It is surprising that he should make this statement in face of the clear judgment in *Hudson v. Bridge*, and if a fresh appeal is necessary to convince him and other analysts that the provision is a universal one—applicable to everything which decomposes on keeping—the appeal would be justified. It is regrettable that in the evidence for the defence so much stress was laid on the evaporation of ethyl nitrite, and none about what happens in the spirit, for there is ample experimental evidence on record that the preparation kept under the best conditions in retail shops undoubtedly decomposes, aldehyde and acetic and nitrous acids being among the products of decomposition. There is, besides, a certain amount of loss by evaporation of ethyl nitrite; but, as the result of an extended series of experiments, MacEwan in 1884 showed, in a communication to the Pharmaceutical Society, that under the best conditions the acidity of the spirit increases on keeping as well as the aldehyde. Decomposition of ethyl nitrite is inevitable, because the preparation contains about 10 per cent. of water, so that the ethylic ester and water interact the preparation getting into a state of incipient decomposition, which is consummated as soon as the spirit is agitated with air, as is unavoidable in serving the liquor to customers. The first change may be the formation of aldehyde and nitrous acid, thus:



Then the aldehyde is oxidised into acetic acid, thus:..



In one case where a 3.5 per cent. ethyl-nitrite spirit diminished by 0.4 per cent. in three weeks, the acidity increased from 0.4 to 0.6 per cent., and the aldehyde also slightly, so that there was decomposition as well as evaporation of ethyl nitrite. The same observer subse-

quently proved, as a result of the examination of some very old specimens of sweet spirit of nitre, that in the course of time the nitrous constituent of the spirit entirely disappears, but that aldehyde, one of the most readily oxidisable bodies, remains. It was also proved that formic acid is one of the products of decomposition of sweet spirit of nitre made from methylated spirit. The Stipendiary Magistrate, in his considered judgment, showed that he perfectly understands the difference between chemical decomposition and a physical change such as evaporation. He said that "decomposition is the breaking-up of combined substances, whether organic or inorganic, which breaking-up usually results in the formation of other compounds." That is exactly what takes place in sweet spirit of nitre, but no evidence to this effect was given. It is clear from the judgment that had such evidence been submitted his verdict would have been different. Owing to the absence of such evidence it is doubtful if an appeal to the High Court will be of service, for the finding is one of fact and not of law. In the meantime, these observations may be taken as another warning to all retail chemists to exercise caution in regard to this preparation. Manufacturers of the spirit are now most careful in its production and distribution. It is generally packed in full bottles as soon as it is made, and its strength ascertained and recorded when bottled. Under these conditions it reaches retailers practically of diminished strength, and it is their duty to store the spirit in cool cupboards and in well-filled bottles, kept, preferably, upside down. Although the defence in the Hanley case was technical in nature, we consider that it was justifiable, in view of the statement by the public analyst that the decomposition provision does not apply to articles of this nature. We cannot understand the objections of public analysts to place their certificates beyond dispute by an appropriate statement upon them, and if any other sweet spirit of nitre cases come into court with similar certificates, we hope that the defence will make the most of the technical objection, and bring forward evidence to show that chemical decomposition actually takes place in the spirit.

Company Chemists.

THE reports issued during 1910 of the leading companies in the retail drug-trade again bear testimony to the value of the personal element in pharmacy proper. We tabulate below the net profits and profit per shop of three of the principal company chemists, and it will be seen that, with the possible exception of Boots (Eastern), Ltd., the results would be far from satisfactory for the average retail pharmacist:

Year	Boots (Eastern)		Lewis & Burrows		Parke's	
	Net Profits	Per Shop	Net Profits	Per Shop	Net Profits	Per Shop
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1901	21,091 (89)	237	2,300 (20)	115	4,173 (27)	154
1906	22,262	—	2,311 (24)	96	5,043 (34)	178
1907	23,003	—	3,506 (24)	146	5,015 (34)	177
1908	23,164 (98)	236	3,597 (24)	150	3,726 (34)	110
1909	23,236 (102)	227	1,493 (24)	62	3,180 (34)	94
1910	23,192 (102)	227	1,808 (24)	75	3,052 (35)	87
Subscribed capital.....	£280,000		£80,080		£73,602	

Figures in parentheses are the number of shops.

In 1906 Taylors' Drug Co., Ltd., showed a loss of 433%, which was converted into a net profit of 9,855% in 1907, 6,806% in 1908, 1,834% for nine months of 1909, and

3,8947. in 1910. This company owns nearly eighty shops, so that the average net profit per shop in 1910 was only about 50l. Sir Jesse Boot at the last meeting of Boots Cash Chemists (Eastern), Ltd., said he had nothing to report but progress; while in Messrs. Lewis & Burrows' report the directors state that they are glad that the depression in trade from which they have suffered the past two years seems to have passed away, but that the improvement had come too late to affect the year under review favourably. Mr. P. Warnford Davis, at the annual meeting of Parke's Drug Stores, Ltd., on January 3, presented another aspect of the situation in company pharmacy. He said they did not pay a dividend on the ordinary shares out of the reserve fund because the directors believe that the only possible way of making a success of such companies as theirs is by conserving their resources, and from time to time opening additional stores, which would be impossible without money, having regard to the general state of business, and this class of business in particular. The adverse circumstances affecting business were put down as increase in licence duties, the high prices ruling for rubber, and insane competition. From other remarks which Mr. Davis made it would seem that silverware, stationery, and similar side-lines are more profitable than drugs, and that the tendency to neglect the latter for the former is likely to increase. The personal factor is the only one by which we can account for the pharmacist holding his own in selling drugs and dispensing medicines, and it would seem that company pharmacy has attained its zenith as regards drug-selling.

Our Information Department.

With the close of another year's work in this Department we again find that it supplies a distinct need in pharmacy, chemical industry, and the drug-trade generally. Inquiries are steadily increasing in number and variety, and the acknowledgments received show that the information given is of direct business value. Buyers and sellers are brought together, in many instances for the first time, and profitable business relations are thus established. In the past year no fewer than 2,490 inquiries were dealt with in this Department alone, apart from the inquiries which are reserved for our correspondence columns. In the majority of cases our system is so well organised that we are able to reply to a commercial inquiry by return of post. In any case there is no delay; for as soon as the information is forthcoming it is transmitted to the inquirer. We are indebted to our subscribers in all parts of the world for the keen interest which they take in this Department and for the promptitude with which they send information when it appears in the "Wanted" section.

Asafetida in U.S.A.

In farther reference to the asafetida controversy in the United States, it is interesting to note that the Treasury Department at Washington has now informed the Collector of Customs that the Secretary of Agriculture suggests that in order to meet what appears to be the present condition of the trade in asafetida, importations containing 35 per cent. or more of alcohol-soluble material be permitted entry, providing the importer is willing to file, bond, or make affidavit to the effect that the asafetida is to be used in the manufacture of certain commodities, enumerating the preparations, and that a proportionately larger quantity of the product will be used, depending upon the strength of the article, in the manufacture of the official preparations of asafetida. The Secretary of Agriculture also expresses the opinion that in no circumstances, if

this product is below the U.S.P. standard, should the article be permitted entry unless its own standard of strength or purity be marked. No specific order has yet been issued by the Secretary of Agriculture; but as the result of correspondence between the Secretary of the Treasury and Secretary of Agriculture regarding the variations in the character of asafetida admitted to the different ports under the Customs laws it was deemed advisable by the Secretary of Agriculture to make the above recommendation. While 50 per cent. or more of alcohol-soluble material is prescribed by the U.S.P., lately goods showing a 40-per-cent. test have been admitted, and it is anticipated that the wants of a section of the trade will be met by the further concession. We have previously suggested that there is a legitimate demand for asafetida apart from medicinal purposes, and it now appears that this demand is to be met. It will be seen from the above that the lower grades may be used in the manufacture of "certain commodities," but what these preparations are is not specified in the letter from the Treasury Department to the Collector of Customs. Evidently it will be necessary for the importer or jobber to obtain the affidavit from his customer. Asafetida in the United States is largely used in powdered form in the preparation of cattle food and medicines, and for this purpose the so-called stony article, which grinds well, is appreciated. It is largely to these grades that the present concession applies.

The Opium Question.

Recently China has adopted a very uncompromising attitude in regard to the Indian imports of opium, her demands being for the immediate total prohibition of the Indian trade, whereas it is common knowledge that the imports were to be restricted *pari passu* with the decrease in the China production, and cease in ten years' time. It was, however, laid down that after three years the position would be reviewed in order to see whether China had moved along with Great Britain in the suppression of opium production and consumption. Exactly three years have elapsed, and negotiations are now afoot between the British and Chinese Governments, it being stated unofficially that Great Britain is offering China a new opium agreement on the most liberal terms, but what they are has not yet transpired. Meanwhile according to the Peking correspondent of "The Times,"

"It appears to be the desire of China to base the new agreement on the principle of Indian restriction keeping pace with Chinese efforts to reduce the cultivation irrespective of the seven years' period still outstanding. Trustworthy reports relating to the continued unchecked poppy-cultivation in many districts, however, hardly suggest the likelihood that acceleration will be feasible.

"Further, it is proposed in regard to those provinces where the cultivation is reported to have ceased totally to prohibit the importation both of the foreign and the Chinese drug on the same principle as the State liquor prohibition in America. It is questionable, however, whether the last-named proposal is practicable owing to the difficulty of organising a preventive service in provinces whose boundaries are thousands of miles in extent."

The crux of the question is that China is not yet able to give statistical proof of a reduction in opium-cultivation, and the report by Sir Alex. Hosie, who was deputed to investigate the matter, will doubtless help to solve the difficulty.

Failures in 1910.

"Kemp's Mercantile Gazette" for January 4 gives a statistical abstract of failures and bills of sale during 1910. The grand total of official failures for 1910 is 9,054, the lowest recorded for twenty-three years. The figures for chemists and druggists and grocers are given below, in comparison with the totals for the United

Kingdom, the figures in parentheses indicating decreases over 1909 :

	Bankruptcies	Deeds of Arrangement	Bills of Sale
Chemists and druggists... ..	68 (— 12)	51 (— 17)	138 (— 11)
Grocery and provision trades	822 (— 48)	892 (— 103)	800 (— 35)
Totals for United Kingdom	4,861 (— 176)	4,393 (— 159)	8,471 (— 308)

In commenting upon these figures, the report states that, with the exception of the building trade, "every kind of business appears—at least upon official figures—to have done much better during the year"; while in respect to grocery and provision trades the improvement "should be a sign of greater spending power among many classes of the community." The conditions affecting pharmaceutical business approach nearest to those of the grocery trade among the trades listed. The last remark would also seem to apply to the chemist with still more force, since many of his profitable side-lines partake more of the nature of luxuries than necessities. The following table gives a comparison of failures in the United Kingdom during the last five years :

	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906
Chemists and druggists	134	170	150	129	162
Grocery and provision trades	2,060	2,251	2,239	2,071	2,232
Totals for United Kingdom... ..	9,054	9,389	10,196	9,606	9,990

It will be observed that during the "boom" year of 1907 the chemists' failures were even less than in 1910; and it is to be hoped, with expanding trade, that the year 1911 will prove even better than 1907 for pharmacy.

Counter-prescribing.

Being Episodes from the pharmacy of a Scottish chemist and druggist, who has read the Government report on unqualified medical and surgical practice in Great Britain and Ireland, and recalls his own experiences.

I ALWAYS rejoice in a decorous way to encounter any edict or publication bearing the *imprimatur* of the Privy Council, that august and Olympianly nebulous body which sits up aloft and, under the aegis of a scion of the good old Norman stock, so sedulously watches over and controls the destinies of the poor pharmacist. But alas! and alack! What is this that confronts and confounds me? The prescribing chemist is reported to be pervasive and pernicious in England, too common in Ireland, and more than sporadic and sinister in my own beloved Scotland. And "horrors upon horrors head accumulate," they have written him down as of the tribe of street-corner quacks, herbalists, bone-setters, "osteopaths," and other noisome nondescripts, who batten on the credulity and fatten on the pelf of "suffering humanity." Woe is me! Now for the first time I recognise myself as a moral assassin, an enemy of the people, and, just heaven! what is infinitely more infamous, a spoiler of the medical profession. (Pause.) During a quiet interval in the shop the question was exhaustively debated between my Categorical Imperative Conscience and my General Utility Conscience, and on reference to the Superman settled in favour of the C.I.C. My orders are that in equity my first duty is to the medical profession, to whom my obligation is incalculable. I must never again prescribe under any pretext, or in any circumstances apply any treatment, with or without gain, which could even constructively have the effect of intercepting patients who might, or might not, consult a registered medical practitioner. The C.I.C. assures me that even if this righteous self-denial costs me custom, there will be copious compensation in the peace of mind which I shall enjoy, and that, although virtue is to be its own reward, the spectacle of such unique devotion to the interests of the medical profession is bound to move some members of it to reciprocate by discontinuing to dispense, and sending

me all their prescriptions. My course is, therefore, specifically mapped out for me. To-morrow I open with a clean sheet to inscribe on it a fair copy of my immaculate conduct.

DIALOGUE.

Dramatis Personæ and Cast.

THE PERPLEXED PRESCRIBING PHARMACIST: Himself.
THE BRUTAL BRITISH PUBLIC: Proteus.

Hypostatical Principles.

THE CATEGORICAL IMPERATIVE CONSCIENCE.
THE GENERAL UTILITY CONSCIENCE.
THE SUPERMAN.

SCENE. A Pharmacy. Erehwemos.
TIME. The Present.

EPISODE I.

Enter Buxom Goodwife, bustling and businesslike.

B. G. : "I'm glad it's yersel', Mr. P. It's aboot oor yin [idiomatic synonym for *paterfamilias*]. His inside's a' wrang. Ye ken whit I mean."

P. P. P. : "I understand. How is —?"

C. I. C. (*minatorily*) : "Now, then, remember your duty to the medical profession."

P. P. P. : "Eh—ah! Well, you see, mam, the symptoms which you have so well described may be due to a variety of causes, which only a duly qualified medical man can diagnose, and therefore I would recommend —"

B. G. : "Hoots, mister, it's no sae desperate as a' that. The fac' o' the matter is oor John was ower kind to himsel' at a social on Setterday nicht, an' has gotten the gripes. I am gey shair ony auld wife could gie him a cure."

G. U. C. (*interposing brusquely*) : "Don't be a ninny, man. Can't you see that the woman is nonplussed and aggrieved by your shilly-shallying. If you aren't careful she'll leave in disgust and go elsewhere, and you know what a good customer she is. You're not living in Utopia, but in twentieth-century Scotland. Buck up and do your duty to yourself and your dependents."

P. P. P. (*with resumed unregenerate suavity and briskness*) : "As you say, mam, perhaps this is a case for—ah—domestic treatment. I shall put up a simple little mixture which will doubtless make your good man all right. But, bear in mind, if he is not better shortly, you must really send him to the doctor."

B. G. : "Imphm; we'll see."

[*Exit appeased customer.*]

C. I. C. (*poignantly*) : "Apostate!"

G. U. C. (*complaisantly*) : "Not such a fool as you threatened to be."

EPISODE II.

Enter Anxious Mother with six-year-old daughter.

A. M. : "Oh, mister! can you tell me what this is on Mary's leg? A neighbour said it was ringworm, but I'm sure it must be eczeema, for I never let her play with low-class children."

C. I. C. : "Now, then, no more backsliding."

P. P. P. (*disconcerted*) : "Hum—ha! These skin-eruptions are really most difficult to identify, and, failing correct diagnosis, the treatment may do more harm than good. On the whole, I think it might be wiser to take Mary to a skin-specialist."

A. M. (*warmly*) : "I would never dream of such a thing; you would need to be made of money to keep that sort up. I only want you to take a look at the eruption, and, with your age and experience, you ought to know what it is."

G. U. C. : "There you go, again, you high and mighty moralist. Doing your besotted best to drive away a good customer. Avast with your nonsense! You are being righteous overmuch. You know well enough that you can distinguish ringworm from eczema. Don't be churlish. Give the woman the benefit of your knowledge and experience."

P. P. P. (*with air of relief*) : "Just bring Mary to the light, please. Ah, yes! ringworm without a doubt. I can easily give you something to kill that."

(*To be continued.*)

Java Grass Oils.

IN the C. & D. for December 17, 1910, attention was directed to the results of the examination of a number of carefully authenticated grass oils from Ceylon, and it is of interest to mention a similar investigation of Java grass oils recently carried out by Dr. de Jong.

Citronella.

The author states that the source of Java citronella oil is the grass known in Ceylon as "Maha-pengiri," while the bulk of the Ceylon oil is derived from "Lena-batu" grass, consequently he proposes to call them *A. Nardus, Java*, and *A. Nardus, Ceylon*, respectively: these names therefore correspond to *Cymbopogon Winterianus* and *C. Nardus, Lena batu* assigned respectively by Stapf to these two species in Ceylon (*loc. cit.*). The former gives a larger yield of better oil than the latter, but requires a richer soil and more careful cultivation. In Java the grass is generally propagated by splitting old roots and planting the separated parts, so that each has a space about 3 ft. square to itself. It does fairly well in shade, but better in sunny situations.

De Jong states that the number of crops, which can be taken each year, depends on the soil and climate, and no general rule can be given. When the first leaf is fully unfolded the following yields of oil in c.c. per 100 grams of leaf are obtained: *First leaf 7.7, second leaf 3.7, third leaf 3.6, fourth leaf 2.6, fifth leaf 2.4, sixth leaf 2.1*. The leaf sheaths contain much less—viz., 3.1 c.c. per 100 grams in the *first*, 0.2 in the *third*, and traces in the *fifth*. If, however, regard is had to the relative *bulk* of the different leaves, the yields of oil are found, for the same *number* of each of the first four leaves, to be as follows: No. 1, 2.9; No. 2, 5.2; No. 3, 5.8; No. 4, 4.7; and consequently the author recommends cutting when the fifth leaf is well developed.

The oil is always obtained by steam distillation, and in Java often with superheated steam under a pressure of three or four atmospheres, the latter method giving a better yield and being much more rapid. It is advantageous to cut the grass into fairly fine shreds before distilling. The yield of oil obtained in practice varies from 0.5 to 0.9 per cent. of the weight of fresh leaves taken. The oil which comes over first is richest in geraniol and citronellal (these two together constitute the "total geraniol" or better "total alcohols") as the following table shows:

—	Sp. gr. at 27°	Rotation	"Total geraniol" per cent.
Fraction 1 ...	0.875	— 3°	87.2
" 2 ...	0.875	— 4°	82.5
" 3 ...	0.880	— 5°	77.3
" 4 ...	0.883	— 7°	77.3

Further, the "geraniol content" increases from the first to the third leaf and then diminishes. De Jong also states that, as a rule, Java citronella oil of commerce is soluble in three parts of 80-per-cent. alcohol, and has a "geraniol content" of 80 to 90 per cent. *Andropogon Nardus, Ceylon*, is recommended to planters having poor soil, which they wish to occupy. A corresponding set of determinations was made with this plant, and the results may be summarised thus:

—	Yield from 300 leaves c.c.	Yield from 100 gms. of leaves c.c.	Rotation of oil	"Geraniol content" per cent.
Leaf, No. 1 ...	1.9	5.9	— 3° 8'	85.9
" 2 ...	3.4	3.7	— 3° 20'	86.3
" 3 ...	2.9	2.0	— 3° 8'	81.3
" 4 ...	2.5	2.0	— 3° 40'	83.0
" 5 ...	—	—	— 3° 12'	81.3
" 6 ...	—	—	— 4° 20'	74.8

The yield of oil is therefore smaller and the quality rather poorer than that from the Java grass, but the Ceylon oil of commerce, according to de Jong, contains only from 50 to 70 per cent. of "geraniol."

The cultivation of lemongrass is carried on much in the same way as with citronella. The data obtained in the course of the investigation of the grass as grown in Java were as follows:

Number of leaf used	Yield from 300 leaves c.c.	Yield from 100 gms. of leaves c.c.	Citral content per cent.
1	0.99	2.12	78.1
2	1.29	1.20	79.4
3	1.09	0.96	77.0
4	0.95	0.83	80.5
5	0.91	0.78	80.0
6	—	—	82.5
7	—	—	83.0

It is suggested that in this case also the plants should be cropped when the fifth leaf is well developed. The oil from the roots contains 82 per cent. of citral. The citral estimation is carried out by Dr. de Jong as follows:

Thirty-five grams of crystallised sodium bisulphite is placed in a "cassia flask" and dissolved in 50 c.c. of water, and to it is added 12 grams of sodium bicarbonate in powder and 10 c.c. of oil. The flask is shaken for an hour, then heated on the water-bath for thirty minutes, and water added to the mark, and the flask set aside for twelve hours. At the end of that time the quantity of unattacked oil is read off, the difference between this and 10 c.c. being the citral content of 10 c.c. of oil. The Java oil is derived from a variety of *Andropogon citratus*, and belongs to the group of "insoluble lemongrass oils," since it does not form a clear solution with two parts of 70-per-cent. alcohol. The author states that the present low price of lemongrass oil is due to the use of the oil of *Bachhousia citradora* as a source of citral, but this is very improbable.

Rusa grass is grown in much the same way as citronella grass, but it differs markedly from citronella and lemongrass in its smaller-leaf production and well-developed stem and flower system. The yield from fresh leaves and stems is generally about 0.6 per cent. The value of the oil (palmarosa oil) depends on its geraniol content, which is generally from 80 to 90 per cent. An unidentified *Andropogon sp.*, which yields an oil rich in geraniol, is also known in Java. This variety is similar to citronella grass in habit, and yields only 0.2 to 0.3 per cent. of oil, which contains 40 to 60 per cent. of geraniol, and is said to possess a more pleasantly rose-like odour than ordinary palmarosa oil.

Two varieties of *Vetiver* or *Cuscut grass* (*Andropogon muricatus*) are known in Java, one native and the other introduced from British India. The

Cuscut. leaves are free from oil, which is obtained only from the roots, to the extent of from 0.4 to 0.9 per cent.

Oleate of Mercury.

By R. C. Cowley, Ph.C., F.C.S., Brisbane.

The author advocates a precipitation process which ensures a mercuric compound, and criticises the misnomer Nitrate of Mercury Ointment.

THE recommendation of the Committee of Reference in Pharmacy for the revision of the British Pharmacopœia and that of "Squire" to revert to the process given in the 1885 Pharmacopœia for preparing oleate of mercury should not be acted upon without an appeal to a closer examination of the compound to which the above-mentioned name is given.

It is well known that the germicidal properties of mercuric salts are much greater than those of mercurous salts. The fatal objection to the preparation of oleate of mercury by the suggested process—viz., by dissolving mercuric

oxide in oleic acid—lies in the extensive reduction that takes place, especially if heat is employed. This reduction does not cease when the mercurous state is reached, but the excess of oleic acid causes reduction, within a few weeks in a hot climate, to the metallic condition. There is no doubt that the rapidity of manipulation has a great deal to do with the recommendation above mentioned, but, in my opinion, this is not one that should have any weight in the compilation of an Imperial Pharmacopœia.

Early in January 1910 I examined the product of an American firm of manufacturers who claim special merit for their preparation, apparently correctly so, and I found that it was made by precipitation from a solution of mercuric nitrate. I was able to imitate this very closely by using the following formula :

Mercury	...	...	...	100 grams
Nitric acid	...	...	...	200 c.c.
Dried hard soap	...	...	...	300 grams

Dissolve the mercury in the nitric acid; heat to oxidise the mercury compound to the mercuric condition; evaporate the solution until a film forms on the surface; add the soap dissolved in 1,000 c.c. of water, stirring well; separate the mercuric oleate and dry.

The product has kept ever since that time in a loosely covered pot with very little change in colour, and is still composed of mercuric compound.

Experimenting on the formula and mode of procedure of the British Pharmacopœia, I found that reduction of the mercuric compound constantly occurred. Apart from this the use of powdered hard soap is objectionable. It is preferable to use an equivalent quantity of hard soap of good quality. The statement in the Pharmacopœia that hard soap contains approximately 30 per cent. of water cannot be accepted literally. It is better to determine the actual amount of water present and work from this. A second difficulty lies in the trouble in separating the oleate of mercury from the water. The heating recommended is decidedly objectionable. I find the addition of brine to the liquid simplifies the separation, as the oleate separates at once without applying heat, and the product consists of mercuric compound entirely. I cannot see that the addition of oleic acid is of any importance, especially since the more important factor of reduction has been ignored. If an acid has to be used to neutralise the alkalinity of the soap-solution the oleic acid may be replaced by the same volume of dilute nitric acid, and it should be added to the mercuric-chloride solution. Following on these principles there is no difficulty in preparing an article possessing the medicinal virtues of mercuric oleate.

A second compound in the British Pharmacopœia which owes its value to the presence of compounds allied to mercuric oleate is that named "nitrate of mercury" ointment. Some years ago I pointed out that this substance is incorrectly named. It does not contain any nitrate of mercury whatsoever. We still notice that such commentaries on the British Pharmacopœia and allied works as Squire's "Companion," Martindale's "Extra Pharmacopœia," and the "British Pharmaceutical Codex" all perpetuate the legend that it contains mercuric nitrate. The truth is that mercuric nitrate is entirely decomposed in the presence of the fats, and the product consists of mercuric compounds of the stereo-isomeric elaidic acid and acids produced by the oxidation of the fats. Its superior germicidal properties depend on the mercury being present in the mercuric condition, but the large amount of free acids in it is a serious drawback to its use unless much diluted. Anyhow, it seems a very roundabout method of securing medication with oleate of mercury.

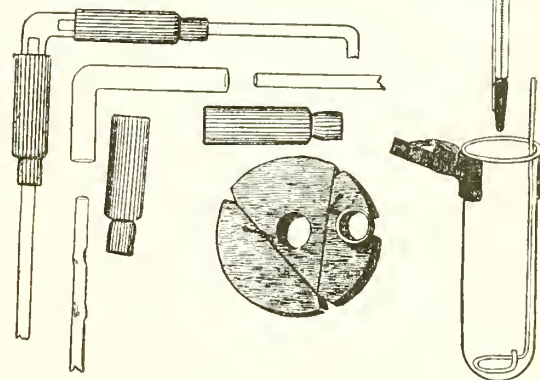
Melting-points.

From "A Study of Melting-point Determinations," by Mr. George A. Menge, of the U.S. Hygienic Laboratory, done for the U.S.P. Committee of Revision. Given in Bulletin No. 70.

AFTER a careful *résumé* of the whole subject, the author, as a result of his work, recommends for incorporation in the U.S.P. a modification of the Graebe apparatus, fitted with a stirrer, so that agreement is arrived at with Tyrer and Levy (*C. & D.*, 1900, II.,

p. 170), who, after a similar comprehensive study, concluded that Graebe's method "is the most convenient form of apparatus as applied to the majority of pharmaceutical substances." The illustration below shows the apparatus fitted with a cork and divided stirrer for high-temperature work. The description is adapted from that of the author :

"A simple round bottom and a straight glass tube 30 mm. internal diameter and about 100 mm. long, flaring slightly at the top like an ordinary test-tube, with walls about 1 mm. (not more than 1.5 mm. at any point), is fitted with a stirring device of such length that a double bend above the top of the container brings the outer end of the stirrer within easy reaching distance of the hand. For use the tube is filled with a suitable bath to a depth permitting the immersion of the bulb of a thermometer so that the upper end of the bulb will be 2 to 3 cm. below the surface of the bath and the lower end about the same distance from the bottom of the container. The capillary tube containing a sample to be tested is attached to the thermometer by means of the capillarity of the surrounding liquid, the sample itself being centrally placed by the side of the thermometer-bulb. The apparatus is set up in a clamp attached to a stand, which also carries the thermometer in a second clamp. The glass tube shown in the figure serves to prevent any swinging of the thermometer that may be induced by stirring, and at the same

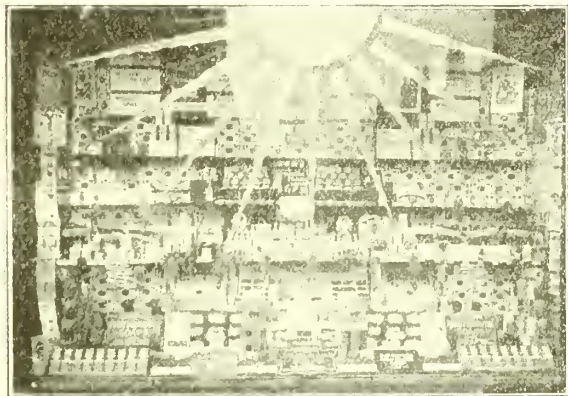


time allows for raising the thermometer in order to adjust the capillary tube."

Sulphuric acid is considered to be the most satisfactory bath, but at about 200° C. there is objectionable fuming, and the cork modification is to get over this disadvantage. The cork is bored and cut as in the figure, and a disc of thin asbestos is attached to the bottom by copper wire passing through the side slits as shown. A glass tube is fitted in the perforation for the stirrer. By this means fuming and charring of the cork are effectively overcome, and the bath may be used up to 350° C. with convenience and safety. The parts of the divided stirrer and the assembling of the same are shown in the figure. Other recommendations refer to the use of official Centigrade thermometers for official melting-point tests, providing uniformity of construction, thickness of bulb and stem walls, length of the thermometer (about 300 mm.), range of registration (about 150° C.), and calibration corrections. Provision for the emergent stem are suggested. In manipulation, constant stirring is recommended, a uniform rate of heating of 3° per minute from 25° below the melting-point until the beginning of melting, and then of 0.5° per minute during the melting-interval. The capillary tube used should be of not less than 0.8 mm. nor more than 1.25 mm. internal diameter, and should contain a solid column cut down 3 mm. in height of finely powdered substance. The sample to be tested has to be passed through a 100-mesh sieve and dried for twenty-four hours in a desiccator over concentrated sulphuric acid.

CHEMISTS' WINDOWS.

New ideas for dressing windows are invited. Photographs of windows sent to the Editor for reproduction should be accompanied by notes on how the displays were arranged.



First Prize Window.

This was the window-display by Mr. Alex. S. Galloway, Chemist, Crewe, during the shopping week there. The exhibit was varied. Wright's coal-tar soap filled the upper third of the window; then toilet specialities, such as Odol, eau de Cologne, tooth-brushes, hair-brushes and combs; with Gibbs' soaps at the bottom.



An Inside Exhibit.

I send you photo of Christmas stand which I built in the shop and which attracted great attention. It was made entirely of paper and a light wood frame, all of amateur manufacture. I fitted up electric lights for illumination, and the colours used (which were the same as in the window) were white and heliotrope. The squares were made by pasting strips of crinkled heliotrope paper on brown paper, and when dry cutting out the squares. The roof and sides (which do not come out very well in the photograph) were all in the same style. Lettering cut out of a darker shade and pasted on white paper. I think this stand proved almost a better salesman than the window. The wording at the back of the stand, which is hidden by the roof, is "Perfumes in artistic cases for Christmas presents." I have for many years, as manager for Mr. Pitman, designed and built a fresh one annually, and it has greatly added to sales. I should be pleased to give fuller particulars to any brother chemist. The materials for stand (bar labour) cost under 3s.—C. H. E. Lowe (42 Redeliff Hill, Bristol.)

Chemists' Christmas Windows.

A window-dressing expert tells in this article about some of the windows which he observed in London.

THE shop-window is a silent salesman always at work, and when the greatest number of interested onlookers may reasonably be expected the pulling power of the display should be greatest. That is the reason why so many chemists have made such attractive windows this Christmas. These notes are intended to indicate to those outside London the nature of the displays made in some prominent shops, the leading lines being perfumes, soaps, and toilet-preparations.

PERFUMES WERE TO BE SEEN EVERYWHERE.

The genuine eau de Cologne and other brands were seen in many windows. A typical Christmas display was made by Rimmel, Ltd., in Regent Street; and one of the most charming chemists' windows in which perfumes predominated was that of Heppell & Co., in the Strand. Prominent in the foreground was "Kigriz," in curiously coloured packages and boxes; also Russian eau de Cologne and French perfumes. Henry Lamplough, Ltd., had a window difficult to beat. In it were row after row of "Parma Violet" and other perfumes. Mistletoe and holly were well used to garnish the display. This company believe in the principle of "taste before you buy," for they offered their "Olfa" perfume in little sample tubes at 3d. each. In many London windows might be seen a full range of toilet-preparations made by the Lescot Perfumery Co., some of whose Japanese and lacquered boxes were remarkably attractive. Morny Frères, Ltd., of Regent Street, made a special show of "Parfum Chamade" in satin cases, and had a remarkable display of old garden pot pourri in ornamental jars. The secret of success in their Christmas display was a profusion of blush and yellow roses—artificial flowers permanently scented. They looked very real, and were capital draws.

Farther out West some of the chemists had very remarkable displays, notably S. F. Goss, Ltd., of Knightsbridge, who made perfumes and proprietary specialities their chief attraction. The semi-circular front had a beautiful appearance when lighted up, rows of pearl shells reflecting the light upon the goods, giving a remarkable effect to the general display, and showing how by the judicious introduction of reflected light even the most prosaic goods can be surrounded with attraction. "Attraction" is the keynote to good display, not only at Christmas, but at all times. Many ideas might have been culled by studying the cases of perfumes and chemists' sundries which have been exhibited throughout the past year at the leading trade exhibitions, notably at the Japan-British and at the Brussels Exhibition. Some London chemists seem to have recognised this, for quite a number of Christmas windows had the appearance of glorified exhibition cases, the influence of manufacturers' representative exhibits being distinctly seen. Mr. J. Atkins, of Queen's Road, Bayswater, had a really striking window, in which the perfumes of Buisson Frères were the chief features, a beautiful display being made of those of which "one drop equals a bouquet of flowers," a charming maiden in a swing giving point to this. Mr. Atkins also gave prominence to the "Lily of the Valley" perfume, and filled his window with lilies, which many stopped to look at.

SOAPS AND TOILET-PREPARATIONS.

Those who used soaps for display and arranged them in straight lines, semi-circles, and in pyramid form, might have taken a lesson from the beautiful pictorial windows of the Erasmic Co., Ltd., and A. & F. Pears, Ltd., whose Oxford Street establishments were such centres of attraction. There models showing the utility of soap and the special advantages of these particular preparations, together with other toilet suggestions, were shown in a charming manner. They were impressionable displays, a point to remember when a base line on which to build is needed. Some window-dressers took advantage of the special offer of Wright, Layman & Umney, Ltd., Southwark, of window-dressing material, which proves how it is possible to make a remarkably attractive window-display with a few cakes of soap. Their very striking window-

card of the boy in the tub balancing a cake of Wright's coal-tar soap on his toes is a telling advertisement. The boy represented as saying, "When I say I want Wright's coal-tar soap I get it, and that's the kind of chap I am," gave a touch of life which amused as well as pleased, and the chemists who showed it did business.

VARIOUS DISPLAYS.

Several chemist-opticians made quite attractive windows with sight-testing appliances and lenses, showing the process of grinding the lens in its different stages from the quartz to the finished pebble. Many chemists might get a wrinkle by looking at the pretty little kiosks on the railway stations, where spectacles and optical specialties are sold. Similar arrangements in a corner window of a chemist's shop have been proved money-bringers.

Photographic goods make excellent side-lines, and not a few had chosen them as the groundwork of their Christmas trade. Others showed field-glasses and telescopes, microscopes, and electrical apparatus.

Here and there a chemist made a good display of very useful presents, such as sponges and bathroom requisites, some having quite picturesque windows. Aërated waters were also in request, and some who laid in quite a large stock for the special trade they anticipated did excellent business—because they showed them in the window surrounded by imitation snow and winter attributes.

Indiarubber hot-water bottles are, of course, seasonable in the winter, and the crimson-felt coverings now generally sold with them give a warm, comforting appearance. Notwithstanding the advance in price of rubber, these have been in good demand during the last week or two, and, although they may be somewhat curious goods to sell for Christmas presents, doubtless they have been appreciated by their recipients.

An improvement in window-dressing is marked throughout the trade. Some chemists have recently succeeded in securing prizes in open competition with other traders, and more will do so in 1911. The tide of progress in the art is flowing steadily, and chemists to keep their places in the van of progress must go with it. Good window-dressing throughout the year will fit them for even greater efforts next Christmas.

TRADE-MARKS.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications must be stated on Form T.M. No. 7 (obtainable at Money Order Offices for £1) and lodged with Mr. Temple Franks, Comptroller-General, Patents Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned.

The figures in parentheses refer to the classes in which the marks are desired.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," December 21, 1910.)

"A W & Co." in a triangle, and facsimile signature, for all goods (3); "ALBULACTIN," for a soluble milk-albumen (42). By J. A. Wulling, 231 Friedrichstrasse, Berlin. 325,766, 323,640.

Label device of "WALTER DE ROOS, LONDON": for pills and various medicines (3). By De Roos' Medicine Co., 76-82 Wellesley Road, Kentish Town, London, N.W. 326,125.

"VINOBYN"; for medicated tonic wine (3). By J. H. Everard, 16 Market Place, Kettering. 326,292.

"MAGNESALINE"; for medicinal chemicals (3). By A. Bishop, Ltd., 48 Spelman Street, London, N.E. 327,438.

"KRU-KO"; for a liniment (3). By A. McCallum, 103 Bath Street, Glasgow. 327,737.

"JEWEL"; for all goods (3), and for various goods (42). By Reade Bros. & Co., Ltd., Cleveland Road, Wolverhampton. 328,205/6.

"FABRA"; for medicinal chemicals (3), for manufacturing substances (4), and for various goods (47). By Fabra Co., Ltd., 46 Vicar Lane, Bradford. 328,352/3/4.

"GOLCRYST"; for medicinal chemicals (3). By Roche, Tompsitt & Co., 4 Red Cross Street, London, E.C. 328,512.

"GRANOSALIN"; for gum and gum tragacanth (42). By H. Scheidt, 6 Hither Green Lane, London, S.E. 328,294.

"CAMEO"; for hair-combs (50). By R. Arton Leech & Co., 47 Mosley Street, Manchester. 327,993.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," December 28, 1910.)

"BIOCITIN"; for veterinary chemicals (2) and for food-substances (42). By Biocithin Mfg. Co., Ltd., 106-106A Gitschinerstrasse, Berlin. 327,287/8.

"CHARVESICA"; for vesicating charges for horses' legs (2). By H. J. Hughes, "Bawnmore," Bilton, Rugby. 327,510.

"PURETTES"; for all goods (3). By G. Staley, The Grove, Tansley, Matlock. 319,678.

Picture of old lady laughing, and wording "Free from Care"; for medicinal preparations (3). By J. S. Flower, 164 Huddersfield Road, Ravensthorpe, Dewsbury. 326,302.

"NEUROPROTON"; for a medicinal food (3). By Timmis & Richards, 432 King's Road, Chelsea. 328,495.

"OMDI"; for an indigestion medicine (3). By Mary Rickett, Tower Nook, Weald Road, Brentwood. 323,506.

"LU-KU"; for a powder for alleviating nasal catarrh (3). By F. W. Richardson, 65 Union Street, Burton-on-Trent. 323,970.

"BULBIQUE"; for a catheter (11). By C. J. Hewlett & Son, Ltd., 35-42 Charlotte Street, London, E.C. 324,488.

"PLYO"; for belts for supporting catamenial bandages (11). By H. Randall and M. C. Craig, 19-21 Great Portland Street, London, W. 328,939.

"ME-MALTO" and label device; for a tonic wine (43). By H. G. Kingham, 96 High Street, Dorking. 327,875.

"THE JUGGLER"; for liquid stain-removers (47). By C. G. Withers, 30 North Street, Barking. 328,739.

Coat-of-arms, with two sphinx-like figures and motto "Ni magnum nisi bonum"; for perfumery, etc. (48). By T. Kerfoot & Co., Oldham Road, Bardsley, near Ashton-under-Lyne. 327,598.

"LOUVIMA"; for perfumery, etc. (47). By V. R. Wilks, 5 Clarendon Road, Belle Vue, West Hartlepool. 327,899.

PATENT SPECIFICATIONS.

Printed copies of the following specifications are on sale (8d. each) at the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, London, W.C., a fortnight after the notice of acceptance has appeared in the "Official Journal" (Patents) of the given dates. Persons desirous of opposing the grant of a patent must do so in the prescribed form within two months from the date of the "Journal" in which the notice appeared.

Specifications Accepted.

December 7, 1910.

MANUFACTURE OF HOT-WATER BOTTLES. 24542/09. Blick & David Moseley & Sons, Ltd.

BABY-SOOTHERS. 27198/09. Wrightson.

TEMPERATURE-INDICATING APPARATUS. 27678/09. Long & St. Stephens.

SYRINGES FOR MEDICAL PURPOSES. 29080/09. Hughes.

MANUFACTURE OF SO-CALLED THIO-DERIVATIVES OF DIARYLAMINES AND OF THEIR DERIVATIVES. 29112/09. Bloxam. (Akt.-Ges. für Anilin Fabrikation.)

PREPARATION FOR THE TREATMENT OF CANCEROUS SORES, ETC. 29981/09. Prichard.

APPARATUS FOR MANUFACTURING SULPHUROUS ACID. 3006/10. Edmunds.

PROCESS FOR INCREASING THE RESISTANCE OF TAR, ETC., TO HEAT. 9955/10. Zimmer.

REMOVING NICOTIN FROM TOBACCO. 11460/10. Sartig.

CONCENTRATING NITRIC ACID. 14381/10. Brauer.

ELECTROLYTIC MANUFACTURE OF ALKALI METALS AND ALLOYS OF ALKALI METALS. 20519/10. Johnson. (McNitt.)

PRODUCING CALCIUM PHOSPHIDE. 22029/10. Doerbecker.

CONCENTRATING NITRIC ACID. 22322/10. Pauling.

SUPPOSITORY INTRODUCER. 22704/10. Glover.

MANUFACTURING AMINO-OXY-ARYLARSINOXIDES. 24480/10. Farbwerke vorm. Meister, Lucius & Brüning.

December 11, 1910.

STERILISATION OF LIQUIDS BY ULTRA-VIOLET RAYS. 28067/09. Henri, Helbronner & Von Recklinghausen.

TREATMENT OF IRON OR STEEL TO PREVENT RUSTING. 28131/09. Coslett.

SUBSTANCES FOR PRODUCING AN EMOLIENT EFFECT ON THE HUMAN SKIN. 4529/10. Heaven.

MANUFACTURING DEHYDRATED ZINC SULPHIDE. 9391/10. De Stucklô.

BED-PAN APPLICABLE AS A DOUCHE. 10051/10. Willis. (Storts & Baldwin.)

SURGICAL AND OTHER BANDAGES. 11255/10. Arnold.

MANUFACTURE OF MEDICINAL SOAP. 11953/10. Fattinger.

MEANS FOR FUMIGATING GLASS HOUSES. 12460/10. Lytle.

TOOTH-BRUSHES. 17005/10. Osborne & Forsdick.

MANUFACTURE OF POTASSIUM AND SODIUM PERSULPHATES. 23551/10. Pietzsch & Adolph.

December 21, 1910.

- OXYGENATING LIQUIDS. 13927/09. Lindemann & Lindemann.
 APPARATUS FOR NARCOTISING ANIMALS. 26042/09. Burgsmüller.
 SOLIDIFYING BREWERS' YEAST. 29379/10. Suretics.
 DENTISTS' STERILISING AND HEATING APPARATUS. 29470/10. Willis. (Paducah Sterilizer Mfg. Co.)
 PRODUCING CRYSTALS. 29780/10. Krüger.
 MANUFACTURE OF ALKALI METALS. 29795/10. Johnson. (Chemische Fabrik Griesheim Electron.)
 SUPPLYING OXYGEN, ETC., FOR MEDICAL AND INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES. 29989/10. Percival & Lee.
 MANUFACTURE OF ABRADING AND POLISHING POWDERS. 30233/10. Helliwell & Helliwell.
 REMOVING NITROUS ACID FROM SOLUTIONS. 30503/10. Johnson. (Badische Anilin & Soda Fabrik.)
 MANUFACTURE OF AMMONIA. 10441/10. Johnson. (Badische Anilin & Soda Fabrik.)
 APPARATUS FOR USE IN DETERMINING THE COLOUR OF LIQUIDS. 14926/10. Lovibond.
 MANUFACTURE OF ALUMINIUM SYPHON-HEADS. 22478/10. Anderl.

December 30, 1910.

- MANUFACTURE OF AMORPHOUS ANHYDROUS BARIUM HYDRATE. 26696/10. Rollin & Hedworth Barium Co.
 MANUFACTURING FEEDING-CAKES AND EXTRACTING OIL FROM THE SEEDS USED THEREIN. 29438/09. MacDonald.
 SURGICAL APPLIANCES, SUCH AS PORTABLE URINALS. 30413/09. Sears.
 EMULSIFYING OR SOLIDIFYING PETROLEUM SPIRIT. 207/10. Seaton-Snowdon & Young.
 LEG-RESTS, ETC., FOR SURGICAL USE. 4294/10. Down.
 EXTRACTING OIL CONTAINED IN HYDROSILICATES, FULLERS' EARTH, ETC. 5009/10. Soc. Anon. Huilerie et Savonnerie de Lurien.
 BANDAGES. 9263/10. Teufel.
 MANUFACTURE OF DERIVATIVES OF *p*-OXYARYLARSENIC ACID. 13485/10. Farbwerke vorm. Meister, Lucius & Brüning.
 MANUFACTURE OF ALKYL ESTERS OF DI-iodo FATTY ACIDS. 19350/10. Ges. für Chemische Industrie in Basel.
 SPECTACLE-GLASSES CUT ECCENTRICALLY FOR OBTAINING PRISMATIC EFFECT. 20475/10. Carl Zeiss.
 MAGNIFYING SPECTACLE-GLASSES FOR MYOPES. 20620/10. Carl Zeiss.

December 31, 1910.

- PRODUCTION OF SUBSTANCES OF THE TERPENE SERIES. 27397/09. Black & Morton.
 MANUFACTURING SODA CRYSTALS. 30336/09. Herve.
 RENDERING CASEIN PLASTIC. 2027/10. Labreil & Desgeorge.
 MANUFACTURE OF VOLATILE ORGANIC ACIDS FROM THEIR CALCIUM SALTS. 4976/10. Swinton.
 MANUFACTURE OF AROMATIC AMMONIUM COMPOUNDS. 15722/10. Johnson. (Badische Anilin & Soda Fabrik.)
 FREEING LIQUIFIED CARBON DIOXIDE FROM AIR. 19602/10. Magnesite Co.

Specifications Open to the Public before Acceptance.

- MANUFACTURE OF ANHYDROUS HYDROSULPHITES. 25872/10. Kinzlberger & Co.
 PROCESS FOR MANUFACTURE OF SULPHUROUS ACID SALTS. 24501/10. Dr. Friedrich et Cie. & Hirsch.
 MANUFACTURE OF MERCURISED COMPOUNDS OF CARBOXYLIC ACID ESTERS AND THEIR PRODUCTS OF SAPONIFICATION. 27049/10. Schrauth & Schöeller.
 OBTAINING PURE OXYGEN FROM ATMOSPHERIC AIR. 27463/10. Pictet.
 REDUCING SULPHATES INTO THEIR SULPHIDES. 27477/10. Bollo & Candencaccio.
 MACHINE FOR DRYING AND GRINDING AMMONIUM SULPHATE. 14633/10. Vorraber.
 MANUFACTURE OF PURE TETRA-PHOSPHOR TRISULPHIDE. 22506/10. Stock.
 BED-PANS. 28841/10. Houdard.
 CONVERSION OF METALLIC LEAD INTO LEAD OXIDE. 26835/10. Bergmann & Simons Ges. & Lindgens & Sohn.
 RECOVERY OF DILUTED OXIDES OF NITROGEN. 28933/10. Le Nitrogène Soc. Anon.
 MANUFACTURE OF FORMATES. 29165/10. Dubox, Luttringer & Denis.
 APPARATUS FOR MAKING INFUSIONS. 20121/10. Bréjeur.
 PURIFYING AND BLEACHING WAXES. 20649/10. Firm Richter & Richter & Von Orth.
 MANUFACTURE OF SALTS OF HALOGENISED FATTY ACIDS. 28871/10. Ges. für Chemische Industrie in Basel.
 MANUFACTURE OF SULPHATES. 29386/10. Collett & Echardt.
 MANUFACTURE OF QUICK-DRYING INK. 29389/10. Ruter.
 RENDERING ALKALI SUPEROXIDES HARMLESS FOR LAUNDRY, ETC., USE. 29997/10. Scheitlin.

OUR AMERICAN LETTER.

(Special Correspondence to the "C. & D.")

A.Ph.A.—The officers of the American Pharmaceutical Association for the year 1911-12 have just been elected by post. The new President is Mr. John G. Godding, of Boston, a practising pharmacist of the old school, who graduated from the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy a quarter of a century ago, and conducts two pharmacies in the fashionable district of Boston. He has been Treasurer of his Alma Mater for a considerable period, and is a very solid type of man generally.

Legality of Price-protection Schemes.—An important decision has just been rendered by the Court of Appeals of New York State, which by inference may be held to support the validity of the old "tripartite" plan of the drug-trade, which was declared illegal by the famous "Indianapolis decree" several years ago. The American Publishers' Association refused the sale of books to R. H. Macy & Co. because the latter cut the retail prices. Macy brought an action against the Association, and the case has been going from court to court ever since. The highest Court in the State now declares in effect that the American Publishers' Association had a perfect right, so far as copyrighted books were concerned, to dictate the terms under which they should be sold, and refuse supplies if those terms were violated. As to books in which no copyright exists, however, no such right could be held to be valid. This is in accordance with the doctrine that the owner of a patented, trade-marked, or copyrighted article has a peculiar control over that article, and that in such a case the free and unrestricted trade permitted with all the ordinary necessities of life does not obtain.

At the Decennial Pharmacopœial Convention in the city of Washington last May there was an interesting discussion over ways and means to bring about a universal use among pharmacists, and so far as possible among physicians also, of the Pharmacopœia. This consummation was seen to be necessary for professional reasons, in order that the standards of the U.S.P. might be lived up to by everybody concerned; but it was necessary also in order that the revisers of the book might be provided with sufficient money to carry on their work effectively. The only receipts, of course, are from the sale of the book. The New York State Board of Pharmacy has now grappled with this problem in a most interesting and effective manner. In drawing up regulations for the enforcement of the new Pharmacy Act, it has provided that every pharmacy and drug-store in the State must have the last copies of both the Pharmacopœia and the National Formulary, otherwise store licences will not be issued. If other State examining boards would take the same action an almost universal use of the U.S.P. and the N.F. would be the result, although in time the same end will be achieved by the increasingly rigid enforcement of the food and drug laws, which compel a general adherence to pharmacopœial standards.

Some Interesting Developments are resulting from the enforcement of the food and drug laws. The authorities at Washington, under the leadership of Dr. H. W. Wiley, chief of the Bureau of Chemistry of the Department of Agriculture, have in some respects not been satisfied with the Federal Act, but have issued regulations which in effect were supplements or additions to the law itself. One by one these are being knocked out by the Courts, and the Government is meeting its Waterloo. The decision in the Antikamnia chemical case is an instance in point. The manufacturers, as the law requires, mentioned the content and quantity of acetphenetidine on the label of their product; but the Government regulation provided that there must also be a statement to the effect that acetphenetidine is a derivative of acetanilide—in other words, the parent substance as well as the derived substance must be mentioned. The Antikamnia Co. fought the case and finally won. Regulation No. 112 was therefore practically declared null and void. There has, indeed, been a great deal of dissatisfaction over the autocratic manner in which the Federal and the State Governments have sought to enforce the pure food and drug laws. "Bureau-made law" after the Russian method was severely reprobated at the recent annual meeting of the National Wholesale Druggists' Association. Resolutions were passed expressing the opinion "that a stop should be put to the ever-broadening interpretations of laws by the Government officials, equivalent in many instances to new legislation." The incoming Legislative Committee was requested "to take up this important matter, and if possible to obtain exact definitions of the powers of those executives entrusted with the enforcement of the laws."

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN.

Council-meeting.

THE monthly meeting of the Council took place at 16 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C., on January 4. The meeting was late in commencing, owing to the interchange of New Year greetings and other matters. Reference was made to the death of Mr. J. B. Barnes and Mr. John Craig, these gentlemen having filled official positions in connection with the Society. The Treasurer reported that the amount of money in hand at the end of the year was smaller than at the corresponding period of last year, but that an unusual item of expenditure—seven years' insurance premium—accounted for this. The Benevolent Fund is in a healthier condition; there is a balance of 239*l.* in hand, against an overdraft in the previous year. Grants amounting to 138*l.* 10*s.* were made from the fund. The Examinations and Education Committee presented a draft scheme for a curriculum which involves the division of the Qualifying examination. The scheme is to be forwarded to the Local Associations and educational bodies for suggestions before it is discussed in Council. The sub-committee which is considering the "Report on Unqualified Medical Practice" require further time for discussing the subject, but in the meantime suggest that the Privy Council be urged to institute an inquiry into the dispensing of medicines and the storage of poisons in the surgeries of qualified medical men.

THE Councillors present were: Mr. J. F. Harrington (President), Mr. W. L. Currie (Vice-President), Mr. W. H. Gibson (Treasurer), and Messrs. C. B. Allen, A. S. Campkin, W. G. Cross, J. H. Cuff, F. J. Gibson, R. L. Gifford, A. Hagon, J. Harrison, A. E. Hobbs, E. T. Neathercoat, G. T. W. Newsholme, C. J. Park, F. A. Rogers, C. Symes, R. C. Walshaw, E. White, and J. R. Young.

SHIPS' MEDICINE-CHESTS.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the PRESIDENT said that Mr. A. J. Phillips, the Society's delegate on the Departmental Committee of the Board of Trade who are entrusted with the revision of the medicine scale for merchant-ships, would be present after the Council meeting to receive suggestions from those members especially interested in the subject.

NEW YEAR WISHES.

The PRESIDENT wished the Councillors a happy and prosperous New Year, and said that, although the year had opened somewhat boisterously, he hoped that as far as pharmaceutical politics were concerned the path would be smooth.

At a later stage the President mentioned that he had sent out the customary New Year greetings to the Presidents of the local Associations and Colonial Boards of Pharmacy, and had received some felicitous replies.

DEATHS.

Allusion was next made to the death of Mr. J. B. Barnes (*C. & D.*, December 17, 1910, p. 889), who acted as an auditor of the Society during 1859 and 1860 and was a member of the Board of Examiners from 1873 to 1888. His death is regretted by a large circle of pharmaceutical friends. The President then referred to the death of Mr. John Craig (*C. & D.*, December 10, 1910, p. 856), who had filled the position of a Divisional Secretary for two years. The Council regretted his loss very much.

ELECTIONS AND RESTORATIONS.

Eighteen persons were restored to their former position in the Society, and seventy-five were elected members. Seven names were restored to the Register of Chemists and Druggists, the required fee having been paid.

FINANCE.

The TREASURER then presented the report of the Finance Committee, of which the following is a summary:

General Fund Receipts.

Penalties and costs	£115	8	0
Subscriptions	2	12	6
"Journal" and publications	491	2	5
Restoration-fees	6	6	0
Registration-fees	48	6	0
Examination-fees	1,412	8	0
Sundry sales	32	3	3

£2,108 6 2

After payment of the amounts authorised at the last Council-meeting, a balance of 1,214*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.* remained, from which the following amounts were recommended for payment:

"Journal" and publications	£640	16	5
Stationery, etc.	23	5	0
Current expenses	700	0	0
Salaries, etc.	313	0	0
School and examinations	40	12	11
Law charges	67	7	9
House	268	0	6
Library	16	10	0

£2,069 12 7

The following balances were shown on the Benevolent Fund:

Current account	£239	18	5
Donation account	13	15	1
Orphan Fund	144	8	0

The TREASURER, commenting on the report, said that the balance on the General Fund (170*l.*) was rather less than last year, but this was accounted for by the fact that the septennial payment for insurance (250*l.*) fell due at the end of the year. The Benevolent Fund is in a healthier condition, there being a balance in hand (239*l.*), against an overdraft at the bank. 150*l.* of a loan from the bank has also been paid off, against 100*l.* in the previous year. The fund has received a donation of ten guineas from Mr. E. H. Gane, New York, a former Bell scholar; also 14*s.* collected at a meeting of the Chemists' Assistants' Association.

The report was adopted.

The TREASURER reported that a letter had been received from Mr. Herbert Fowles, Secretary of the Staff Provident Fund, thanking the Council for agreeing to make up the interest on the investments of the fund to 5 per cent.

BENEVOLENT FUND.

The report of the Benevolent Fund Committee was taken *in camera*, after which the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. CAMPKIN, in moving the adoption of the report, referred to the satisfactory state of the finances of the fund. Grants of 128*l.* were made to eight widows and one member, while ten guineas was voted for the Secretary's casual fund. The cases under consideration were more needy than usual. Referring to a grant of 26*l.* made to Mrs. J. A. Pimm, Mr. Campkin stated that applicant is a candidate for admission to the British Home for Incurables, and he asked those chemists who have votes or are able to influence them to do so on behalf of Mrs. Pimm.

The SECRETARY added that Mrs. Pimm has been up for election three times, and has only ninety-four votes to her credit. As many more will be needed before she can be elected, he appealed for help from subscribers to the British Home for Incurables.

The report was adopted.

A resolution was passed authorising the Secretary to pay the annuitants quarterly during 1911.

LIBRARY, ETC., COMMITTEE.

Mr. WHITE presented the report of the Library, Museum, School, and House Committee. Messrs. Parkinson's account for 17*l.* 3*s.* was approved. An application for the loan of the bust of the late William Martindale for the White City Exhibition was received, but the Committee did not feel justified in recommending the Council to run the risks attendant on the removal of the bust from the Society's house. An estimate of 9*l.* 10*s.* per annum for keeping in order the telephones and electric bells was approved of, and the contract recommended to be entered into.

Professor GREENISH reported that the mechanical mortar ordered at the last meeting had been fixed and was working satisfactorily. The students petitioned the President for a fume chamber to be placed in the lecture theatre, and the Chairman has arranged to consult the school staff on the matter.

Mr. WHITE having commented on the various items, the report was adopted without discussion.

ORGANISATION.

Mr. NEATHERCOAT next presented the report of the Local Associations Committee, which had reference to past and future meetings of chemists in the country attended by members of the committee. One of the items in the report was respecting the collection of subscriptions by Divisional Secretaries in Scotland. After consideration the committee unanimously agreed that it is not advisable to revert to the former practice, but that it should be made clear that Divisional Secretaries who desire to collect subscriptions or members who prefer to pay their subscriptions through divisional officers are at liberty to do so.

Mr. NEATHERCOAT made comments on the various items, and

Mr. GIFFORD took exception to the use of the expression "valuable work done by the Council." It savours, he said, of mutual admiration, and at best the value of the work is a matter of opinion.

The report was adopted.

Three appointments as Divisional Secretaries were made.

The SECRETARY reported that he had registered a number of persons as apprentices or students.

Division of the Minor and Curriculum.

The VICE-PRESIDENT then presented the following draft scheme for the division of the Minor examination and the institution of a curriculum of study, with the recommendation that it be sent to Local Associations and educational bodies for observations and suggestions:

The Qualifying examination to be divided into two parts to be called—

- (a) The Intermediate examination.
- (b) The Final examination.

INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATION.

A candidate desiring to enter for the Intermediate examination shall deliver to the Registrar evidence that, *subsequent to passing the Preliminary examination and being registered as a student*, he has attended with regularity and has duly performed the work in the class and in the laboratory, in a teaching institution approved by the Council, not less than—

- 50 lectures in botany,
- 25 hours' work in practical botany,
- 100 lectures in chemistry,
- 300 hours' work in practical chemistry,
- 25 lectures in physics.

The lectures and practical work in botany and in chemistry must include the matter detailed in the syllabus of the Intermediate examination. Chemistry shall include so much physics as is required by the syllabus.

The syllabus of the Intermediate examination shall be the same as the present Minor syllabus in botany and in chemistry (including physics), with the exception of the following under the heading of "Chemistry and Physics" and "Practical Chemistry," which shall be transferred to the Final examination:

Chemistry and Physics.

Paragraph (c) delete the words: "The usual impurities in such of the above-named substances as are included in the British Pharmacopœia."

Practical Chemistry.

Paragraph 2.—Delete the words: "to detect the chief impurities in those that are included in the British Pharmacopœia."

Paragraph 3.—Delete the words: "and to detect the impurities in such as are included in the British Pharmacopœia."

Paragraph 4.—Delete the words: "To perform those volumetric determinations which are described in the British Pharmacopœia."

Paragraph 6.—Delete the whole.

The Intermediate examination shall consist of a written examination in botany and in chemistry on one day and a practical examination in botany and in chemistry on a subsequent day

FINAL EXAMINATION.

A candidate desiring to enter for the Final examination must have passed the Intermediate examination, and shall deliver to the Registrar evidence that *he has been engaged for three years, after registration as a student*, under the supervision of a registered chemist, in the ordinary work of pharmacy, including the translation and dispensing of prescriptions; and that he has attended with regularity and has duly performed the work in the class and in the laboratory, in a teaching institution approved by the Council, not less than

- 60 lectures and demonstrations in materia medica,
- 30 lectures in pharmacy,
- 200 hours' work in practical pharmacy,
- 20 lectures in dispensing and prescription Latin,
- 100 hours' work in practical dispensing.

The lectures and practical work in materia medica, pharmacy, dispensing, and prescription-reading must include the matter detailed in the syllabus of the Final examination.

The syllabus of the Final examination shall be the same as the present Minor syllabus in the subjects of materia medica, pharmacy, dispensing, and prescription-reading, with the following additional paragraph under the heading

Practical Pharmacy and Dispensing.

After the word "wines" add a second paragraph as follows:

"To recognise, by chemical tests, and to detect the impurities in, the non-metallic elements and compounds, metals, salts, and organic compounds included in the British Pharmacopœia. To determine those melting-points and boiling-points and to perform those volumetric determinations which are described in the British Pharmacopœia. To determine quantitatively the total alkaloids in cinchona-bark and its official preparations, in the liquid extract of belladonna and its preparations, and in the liquid extract of ipecacuanha; also the strychnine in the extract, liquid extract, and tincture of nux vomica; the morphine in opium and its extract, liquid extract, and tincture; and the resin in tincture of jalap."

The Final examination shall consist of a Practical examination in pharmacy and dispensing on one day and an Oral examination in materia medica, pharmacy, and prescription-reading on a subsequent day.

The VICE-PRESIDENT said the scheme had involved an enormous amount of labour and patience, and he hoped the Council would agree with the committee's recommendations.

Mr. YOUNG said he understood that the scheme was not to be discussed at that meeting.

The PRESIDENT replied that that was so. The committee does not ask the Council to approve of the scheme, and it goes forth to the Local Associations for suggestions.

Mr. YOUNG: The Council will then consider objections.

Mr. ALLEN: That will save time, as the Associations are beginning to hold their meetings.

Mr. HARRISON: On the other hand, it is the duty of the Council to let the Local Associations know what are the views of the Councillors.

After further remarks from Messrs. WHITE, NEATHERCOAT, HOBBS, WALSHAW, SYMES, YOUNG, ALLEN, and the PRESIDENT,

Mr. HARRISON proposed as an amendment that the consideration of the scheme be adjourned till the next Council-meeting, and the scheme be not distributed in the meantime.

Mr. GIFFORD seconded this, but on being put to the meeting the amendment was lost by a large majority.

The original motion to submit the report for suggestions before discussing it was then carried.

Later in the proceedings a copy of a resolution by the Newcastle Association was submitted recommending that

(a) the Minor examination be held on consecutive days, (b) that the fee be five guineas, and (c) that the examination be a divided one—that is to say, where a candidate satisfies an examiner in any one subject or subjects, these subjects stand to the credit of the candidate, and not to be taken at any subsequent examination.

The PRESIDENT suggested that this be sent to the Examinations and Education Committee.

Dr. SYMES said this resolution embodies a totally different idea of dividing the Minor from what he had advocated.

The PRESIDENT: The expenses of the examination would be doubled, while the fees would be halved.

Mr. YOUNG said that any sane man would condemn any move in the direction of mincing the examination on the instalment principle.

The VICE-PRESIDENT said he was going to Newcastle, and would deal with the matter.

REPORT ON UNQUALIFIED PRACTICE.

The report of the Sub-Committee of the Parliamentary and General Purposes Committee was next on the agenda. The sub-committee stated that they desired further time for consideration of various points in connection with the Report on Unqualified Medical Practice. As a result of a discussion on the dispensing of medicines and handling of poisons by unqualified persons, the committee recommended that the Privy Council be urged to institute an inquiry into the conditions as to the storage and distribution of poisons and the dispensing of medicines in the surgeries of medical practitioners in the United Kingdom. The report also dealt with a case where a member of the Society has been convicted of obtaining money under false pretences, and it was recommended that action be taken under the by-laws.

The report was adopted.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The North Staffordshire Association forwarded a resolution expressing appreciation of the work of the Local Association Committee, and thanking Mr. F. J. Gibson for his visit to Stoke on December 9, 1910.

The Grimsby, Eastbourne, Western, and Sheffield Associations forwarded protests against the reports published in the Blue-book on Unqualified Medical Practice. The Eastbourne Association recommended that doctors' dispensaries should be open to the visits of the inspectors under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts and Weights and Measures Acts.

The Stockton-on-Tees, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Eastbourne Associations forwarded resolutions regarding the restrictions on the sale of Panopepton. The last-named Association suggested that a reduction be made in the amount of alcohol in the remedy.

OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS.

Mr. HARCOURT, the Colonial Secretary, forwarded a copy of the amendment to the Deleterious Drugs Ordinance of the Straits Settlements. This was left to the President to deal with.

The Privy Council forwarded a copy of a communication from the British Minister at Stockholm, with translation of a circular issued under the Swedish Sale of Poisons Act. This was in the nature of an amendment of a previous circular designed to render it clear that cocaine and its salts cannot be sold to a customer in any form unless under medical authorisation.

This concluded the public business.

COLLEGE NOTES.

SOUTH OF ENGLAND COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.—The following awards have been made as a result of the winter examinations just concluded: Silver medal of the College, Mr. R. D. S. Thomas. *Chemistry*: Bronze medal, Mr. R. D. S. Thomas. *Certificates in Practical Chemistry*: Messrs. E. T. Hayball, S. G. Court, and R. D. S. Thomas. *Certificates in Theory of Chemistry*: Messrs. R. D. S. Thomas, H. E. Archer, and E. T. Hayball. *Pharmacy*: Bronze medal, Mr. J. G. Gordon. *Certificates in Dispensing*: Messrs. F. G. Mills, H. O. Thomas, J. G. Gordon, and F. W. G. Brimacombe. *Certificates in Theory of Pharmacy*: Messrs. G. H. Kynaston, S. G. Court, R. D. S. Thomas, E. T. Hayball, and J. G. Gordon. *Botany*: Bronze medal, Mr. W. D. G. Barker. *Certificates*: Messrs. R. D. S. Thomas, J. G. Gordon, G. H. Kynaston, H. E. Archer, and W. D. G. Barker. *Materia Medica*: Bronze medal, Mr. H. E. Archer. *Certificates*: Messrs. F. G. Mills, E. T. Hayball, and H. E. Archer. The "Attenborough" prize in dispensing was gained by Mr. F. W. G. Brimacombe.

WINTER SESSION.

Association Presidents.

MR. FRESHFIELD REYNOLDS, Ph.C., President of the Cheltenham and District Chemists' Association, was born at Hanover Street, Peckham, in September 1840, and received the principal part of his education at the Friends' School, Bootham, York. In September 1855 he was apprenticed for six years to the late E. Waller Martin, of Guildford. In 1861, having completed his apprenticeship, he became assistant to Mr. Quiller (Alsop & Quiller), in Sloane Square, London, leaving late in the following year for Leeds to take the management of the dispensing and retail departments of Harvey & Reynolds' pharmacy at 13 Brig-gate. After the retirement of Thomas Harvey Mr. Reynolds became partner with his cousin, Richard Reynolds, so far as concerned the departments previously mentioned, the branch pharmacy in Commercial Street being opened almost immediately. When the partnership came to an end Mr. Freshfield Reynolds removed to Harrogate in 1882 and opened a new pharmacy there. After seventeen years of strenuous work impaired health suggested the removal to a milder locality, and in 1899 he disposed of his business to Mr. Handford and purchased a smaller one at Gloucester, where he still resides. Mr. Reynolds comes of old Quaker stock, and is a lifelong member of the Society of Friends. He is happily married, and has three sons, three daughters, and four grandchildren to delight his advancing years. An enlargement of the photograph from which our engraving has been made is to be added to the gallery of former Presidents in the rooms of the local Association.



MR. FRESHFIELD REYNOLDS.

Brief Records.

Hull Pharmacists' Association.—The annual meeting was held on January 3 at the Grosvenor Hotel, Mr. J. F. Robson (President) in the chair. Among others present were Mr. W. Staning (Hon. Secretary), Mr. W. Kenny (Hon. Treasurer), Messrs. Robinson, Richardson, Wharton, Tebb, Snowden, Smith, Sawyer, and Walton. Some correspondence was read as to an address by Mr. Rymor Young, to which meeting, when a date is fixed, it is proposed to invite the pharmacists of Scarborough, Bridlington, Driffield, Howden, etc. The *annual report*, read by the Hon. Secretary, showed that there are now fifty-six members. A sum of 2*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* had been sent to the Benevolent Fund of the Pharmaceutical Society. The balance-sheet submitted by Mr. W. Kenny showed cash on deposit and in hand 11*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.* Both report and balance-sheet were approved. *Officers and Committee* were elected for the ensuing year as follows: President, Mr. R. F. Jones, Anlaby Road; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. Robson, Robinson, and T. Smith; Hon. Secretary, Mr. Walter Staning; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. W. Kenny; Committee, Messrs. Snowden, Richardson, and Wharton. It was also decided that Mr. Wharton should act as Assistant Hon. Secretary. The retiring officers were thanked for their services. It was decided to invite Mr. A. R. Tankard, the city analyst, to deliver a lecture before the Association.

Society of Chemical Industry.

A MEETING of the London Section was held at Burlington House, Piccadilly, W., on January 2, Mr. E. Grant Hooper in the chair.

Messrs. J. H. Coste and B. R. James read the first paper on

RADIATION ERRORS IN FLOW CALORIMETERS.

The tacit assumption usually made that losses or gains due to heat-exchanges between a gas-calorimeter of the flow type and its surroundings are negligible is correct only when the temperature of the water-supply approximates closely to that of the surroundings. If this is not the case, it will be found that when water is allowed to circulate through the instrument without lighting the gas, the temperature of the outlet water will be different from that of the inlet. If the water-supply, as is usual,

is of a lower temperature than the surroundings of the calorimeter, heat will be absorbed by the latter and the outlet thermometer will record a higher temperature than the inlet thermometer. It was shown that the changes are due to radiation rather than to convection. The authors dealt with the methods of correcting the error, preferring that of surrounding the instrument with an annular metal vessel (separated from it by an air-space), through which water circulates before reaching the inlet thermometer. This method has the special advantage that it places the calorimeter in a position where it is not affected by fluctuations of external temperature, which is important when a suitable room of a constant temperature and free from draughts is not available.

THE TESTING OF INCANDESCENT MANTLES

was the next paper, in which Mr. J. H. Coste was associated with Mr. W. E. F. Powney. The authors describe a system for the comparative examination of incandescent mantles, based on the elimination of those which are of defective strength by means of the Woodall-Moon machine, which administers a series of equal shocks at equal intervals, causing a vibration in the stem supporting the burner and mantle. After being burnt off and hardened by five minutes' burning, upright mantles are expected to stand 1,000 shocks and inverted mantles 3,000 shocks. Three mantles are tested, and, if any fail to stand 1,000 shocks, three more are tested. By testing only up to 1,200 and 3,600 shocks respectively, one unusually strong mantle is not allowed to compensate for abnormally weak ones, and a failure of one in six is allowed. Mantles which pass this test are tested photometrically. Three are burnt for 100 hours on their proper burners and are then removed to the photometer. The horizontal value is taken for upright mantles and the average of the values at 0°, 45°, and 90° with the horizon for inverted mantles. A final selection can be made either by disregarding all with an average illuminating-power below a certain amount, and then striking out all with an excessive variation between individuals; or by subtracting from the average illuminating-power the mean variation and using the result as a figure of merit. Price will naturally act as the final determining factor.

The last paper was by Mr. J. P. Ogilvie on "The Determination of Sucrose (Cane Sugar) in Beet-sugar Factory Products by Clerget's Process, using Invertase as Hydrolyst."

Federation of Local Pharmaceutical Associations.

THE final meeting of the Federation took place at 17 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C., on January 4. Mr. W. L. Currie (Chairman) presided, Mr. Edmund Jones (Secretary) supported him, and a few delegates were present. The Chairman explained the object of the meeting to be the winding-up of the Federation, in accordance with the decision arrived at in July at the Cambridge meeting. This had been brought about by the fact that the British Pharmaceutical Conference had accepted Mr. Umney's resolution, and resolved to found a commercial section; while the Pharmaceutical Society has taken over the work of federating Local Associations. Want of funds due to inadequate support was also a contributing cause. Mr. Currie contended that the Federation had fully justified its existence, and he eulogised the work that had been done by the executive for many years in the interests of retail chemists.

Mr. Edmund Jones read a number of letters received from Local Associations in response to the invitation for suggestions as to the disposal of the residue of the funds. Some of these contained appreciative references to the work done by the executive.

Mr. Neathercoat moved a vote of thanks to the officers for the way they had worked in circumstances which were not altogether favourable. He also spoke appreciatively of the foundation which the Federation had laid for the work of the Local Association Committee of the Pharmaceutical Society.

Mr. Walshaw (Huddersfield) supported the last speaker. The disposal of the residue of the money in the Treasurer's hands was then discussed, and it was unanimously agreed

to pay over any money remaining to the Benevolent Fund of the Pharmaceutical Society. The amount is likely to be between 8% and 9%.

Votes of thanks terminated the meeting.

FESTIVITIES.

Camwal Social.

THE staff and employés of the Mitcham Branch of Camwal, Ltd., held an enjoyable social evening in the company's warehouse at Ravenspring Hall, Mitcham, which was transformed into a concert-hall for the occasion. After tea a musical programme containing thirty-eight items was gone through, and a pleasant evening terminated with three cheers for the general manager, by whose kind permission the premises were available.

An "Extract" Dinner.

THE twenty-seventh Annual "Extract" Dinner, given by Messrs. Newball & Mason, was held on December 30, 1910. One of the large herb-rooms had been cleared for the occasion and gaily decorated with bunting. In the absence of Mr. T. Mason through illness, the chair was taken by Mr. B. Deaville. In submitting the toast of "The Firm," Mr. J. W. Wakerley (manager of the printing department) made a comparison of the happy gathering with the feasts of the old feudal days, when the barons and their retainers met in harmonious fellowship round the festive board. Mr. Deaville, in responding, thanked the employés for the loyal assistance which they had rendered during the year. He was proud to have so loyal a set of workers at his service. There was also an enjoyable musical programme, while the fare was cooked in real Old English style in one of the laboratories, and washed down with about 100 gallons of "Good! it's Mason's," brewed specially for the occasion.

SCIENTIFIC PROGRESS.

Temperatures under this heading are on the Centigrade scale.

Bromodiethylacetylurea.—This new remedy, patented by Bayer & Co., has the formula $C(C_2H_5)_2 Br.CO.NH.CO.CH_2$, and is prepared by the interaction of urea and bromodiethylacetyl chloride. It is a white, almost tasteless, crystalline powder, melting at 115°-116°, and only very slightly soluble in cold water, but more soluble in hot water. It is a powerful hypnotic and may be administered with safety to the extent of 45 grains per day.

Pellotine.—An alkaloid extracted from the plant *Anhalonium Williamsi* was studied from a clinical point of view by Heffler. Messrs. Boehringer & Son have now prepared it in a state of purity on a commercial scale, and have placed it on the market in the form of its hydrochloride. The pure alkaloid has the formula $C_{15}H_{19}NO_3$, and forms crystalline tablets melting at 110°. The hydrochloride, $C_{15}H_{19}NO_3.HCl$, forms crystalline prisms, easily soluble in water. It is a powerful sedative and hypnotic.

The Detection of Capsaicin.—Nelson ("J. Ind. and Eng. Chem," 1910, 419) points out that Garnett and Grier's method for the detection of capsaicin in preparations of ginger is said to lack delicacy on account of the incomplete destruction of the gingerol. He suggests the following process: 10 c.c. of the liquid (such as tincture of ginger), or the ether extract of 100 c.c. of ginger-beer, etc., is evaporated with 10 c.c. of twice normal alcoholic potash. About 7 mg. of manganese dioxide and 5 to 10 c.c. of water are added, and the heating continued until volatile oils are expelled. The cold liquid is then acidified with dilute sulphuric acid, and at once extracted with petroleum ether. The solvent is evaporated and the residue touched with the tip of the tongue. If this consists of capsaicin its burning taste will be unmistakable.

Hydroxycodine is a new alkaloid from opium, discovered by Messrs. T. & H. Smith, Edinburgh, in the mother-liquors obtained in the working-up of the opium alkaloids. J. J. Dobbie and A. Lauder ("Proc. Chem. Soc.," vol. 26, No. 379, p. 339) find that the alkaloid is a tertiary base with the formula $C_{18}H_{21}O_3N$. It is soluble in water and the usual organic solvents, but so far has not been obtained in the crystalline condition. It softens about 40°, and melts completely at 51°. It is slightly dextrorotatory, and contains one methoxyl group. The hydrobromide crystallises readily from water in large, hard, prismatic crystals. The alkaloid appears to be a hydroxy-derivative of codeine, its absorption-spectra agreeing very closely with those of codeine, and the colour-reactions of the two alkaloids are practically identical.

TRADE REPORT AND MARKET REVIEW.

The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers receive the goods into stock, after which much expense may be incurred in garbling and the like. Qualities of chemicals, drugs, oils, and many other commodities vary greatly, and higher prices than those here quoted are charged for selected qualities of natural products even in bulk quantities. Retail buyers cannot, for these and other reasons, expect to purchase at the prices quoted here.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., January 5.

STOCKTAKING operations having absorbed the attention of the home trade since our last, business in drugs and chemicals has not yet settled down to its normal proportions, and not much activity is looked for until next week, when the auctions will be resumed. So far as values of most staple products are concerned, there is a firm undertone, and the outlook for expansion of business is considered good. Among the more important changes is a decided advance in American peppermint oil, which, in view of the strong statistical position, was not unexpected, and in Japanese dementholised oil a large arrival business has been done to the Continent. Opium is steady on resumed American buying in Smyrna. Cocaine is firm at last week's advance. Atropine and hydroquinine are offered at easier rates. Ipecacuanha is firmer and in fair demand. Japanese slab camphor is firmer; ergot continues extremely scarce, and jalap to arrive has a downward tendency. Bergamot oil is easier, and lemon unaltered. Almond and castor oils remain firm. Buchu, copaiba, and cubeb oils are lower. English lavender oil is very firm, as is saffron. Santonin is higher by 2s. 3d. The following table shows the principal changes:

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Cocoa butter	Camphor (Jap. slabs)	Bergamot oil	Buchu oil
Condurango	Colocynth	Hydro- quinone	Cubeb oil
Peppermint oil (American)	Ipecac.	Jalap	Rubber
Santonin	Linseed	Shellac	
Turpentine			

Cablegrams.

SMYRNA, January 4:—The sales of opium, amounting to 100 cases, mostly extra Karahissar, at the equivalent of 13s. per lb.

NEW YORK, January 5:—Business is fair. Opium is quiet at \$4.85 per lb. for druggists by single cases. Peppermint oil in tins has advanced to \$2.30 per lb. Hydrastis (golden seal) is firmer, but unchanged at \$2.70. Cascara sagrada is steady at 8c. Jalap is easier at 25c. per lb. Buchu is firmer at \$1 per lb. for short-broad. Curacao aloes is easier at 6½c. per lb.

London Markets.

ALMOND OIL remains firm owing to the difficulty in procuring supplies of almonds. Expressed B.P. is quoted at from 2s. to 2s. 1d. per lb. as to quality, and bleached 2s. 2d. The essential oil is 17s., and s.a.p. 20s. per lb. Expressed *Peach* or *Apricot kernel* oil is offered at from 11d. to 1s. net; distilled ditto at 13s. to 14s., and s.a.p. 16s. to 17s. per lb.

ANISEED has been sold recently at 24s. 6d. per cwt. for good Russian on the spot.

ATROPINE is offered at the slightly easier rates of 13s. 9d. per oz. net for the pure crystals and 10s. 9d. net for sulphate.

BERGAMOT OIL.—New crop for January shipment is offered at the easier rate of 15s. per lb. c.i.f. for guaranteed pure. There is a large quantity of adulterated oil offering on the spot.

BUCHU.—There is a fair general inquiry, but the market is poorly supplied with short broad leaf on the spot, the

bulk of the stock being longs, which are weak. Fair greenish short-broad is offered at from 2s. 6d. to 2s. 9d., and off-colour at 2s. 3d. The *Kinfauns Castle* has brought 13 packages, ten of which are for New York and the remainder for London.

BUCHU OIL.—A further reduction is announced in English distilled, which is offered at 8s. per oz.

CALUMBA.—For natural sorts in small lots, second-hand holders ask 40s.

CAMPHOR (REFINED).—Business has been done in Japanese slabs for February-March shipment at 1s. 5½d. c.i.f., but sellers now ask 1s. 6½d.

CANARY-SEED is firmly held, but as there is at present little demand, prices are nominally unchanged at 43s. per quarter for ordinary and 48s. for good Morocco, and 45s. for Turkish.

CAPSICUMS.—Steady. At auction 73 bags Nyasaland sold at 51s. to 52s. for fine, and 45s. to 48s. for fair to good red picked.

CARAWAY-SEED is quoted 24s. to 25s. per cwt. for ordinary to good Dutch on the spot, with a small business doing.

CASTOR OIL.—Firm. Hull make is quoted at 32l. per ton. for first pressing, 29l. 10s. for March-June, and 29l. 10s. for July to December delivery, in barrels, delivered free on wharf London. Pure cold drawn pharmaceutical is 2l. 10s. per ton extra; tins and cases 50s. per ton extra.

CINCHONA.—The auction to be held at Amsterdam on January 19 will consist of 6,754 packages Ledgeriana, 639 cases and 830 bales Succirubra, and 2,086 packages hybrid, or 10,309 packages in all. The total weight is about 897,141 kilos. The total shipments from Java to Europe during November were 1,357,000 Amst. lb., against 1,345,000 Amst. lb. during December 1909. The total shipments during 1910 amounted to 18,043,000 Amst. lb., against 15,490,000 in 1909, or 2,553,000 more.

CLOVES.—Firm. At auction 26 cases Penang were bought in at from 1s. 6d. to 1s. 8d., and dark mixed at 1s. 3d. Privately Zanzibar are firmer, the sales including March-May delivery at 7½d. to 7¾d., and June-August 7¾d. per lb.; to arrive 7¼d. c.i.f. has been paid for January-March.

COCA-LEAVES.—At the Amsterdam auction on January 19 759 packages Java will be offered, weighing about 37,095 kilos.

COCAINE is firm at last week's advance to 9s. 4d. per oz. for hydrochloride for 175-oz. lots, 9s. 6d. for 75-oz., and 9s. 8d. for less than 75-oz. lots, less 5 per cent. discount. It is quite anticipated that these official rates will be paid shortly, as it is said second-hand holders have sold freely to the makers.

COCOA-BUTTER.—At Amsterdam, on January 3, 84 tons Van Houten's realised 86.06c. per half-kilo., 85.50c. at the last sale; 12½ tons other makes sold at 79c.

COLOCYNTH.—There has been a good inquiry for *Pulp*, and several tons have been sold, mostly for export, at 6d. per lb. The market has been practically cleared of all cheap parcels offering, but there is still a fair quantity held off the market for a much higher figure. The stock of *Apple* is now very small, holders asking 9d. for fair. A considerable quantity has lately been sold on the Continent, and supplies can only be replaced by buying to arrive at a much higher figure.

CONDURANGO.—Holders have again advanced their prices in Hamburg, asking 53s. 6d. f.o.b.

COPAIBA OIL.—English distilled from Para balsam is cheaper to buy at 4s. 9d. per lb.

COPPER SULPHATE is steady at from 19*l.* 10*s.* to 19*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* for ordinary Liverpool brands for January-February delivery, and 19*l.* 15*s.* to 20*l.* per ton for February-March.

CORIANDER-SEED is very firm; weathered Morocco has been sold at 17*s.* 6*d.* and dull sound old crop at 20*s.* per cwt.

CUBE OIL is offered by English distillers at the lower rate of 16*s.* 6*d.* per lb.

CUMIN-SEED is steady at 35*s.* per cwt. for good Morocco, and 38*s.* for Malta.

DIETHYL-BARBITURIC ACID is offered at the cheaper rate of 25*s.* per lb. net in 1-lb. lots.

ERGOT is quiet but very firm, sound Spanish of the new crop being held at the high figure of 3*s.* 6*d.* on the spot.

FENUGREEK-SEED is in quiet demand, with sales of weathered at 8*s.* 6*d.*, and good bright at 10*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.

GINGER.—Firm. At auction 125 bags mouldy and wormy washed rough Cochin sold at from 47*s.* 6*d.* to 48*s.* per cwt.

GUINEA GRAINS.—From Liverpool the high figure of 102*s.* 6*d.* is quoted, which compares with 85*s.* exactly a year ago.

HYDROQUINONE is offered at the slightly easier rates of from 2*s.* 3*d.* to 2*s.* 4*d.* per lb. net for 14 lb. and 28 lb. lots.

IPCACUANHA remains firm, business having been done in Cartagena at 7*s.* 9*d.*, and some sellers now ask 8*s.*; Matto Grosso has also been sold at 8*s.* 6*d.*; the stock of this description, according to the drug statistics, is 51 bales only. About half of the recent arrival of East Indian is said to have been sold at about 8*s.* 3*d.*, and the balance will probably be offered next week. Minas has been sold at 8*s.* 3*d.*

The exports from Cartagena during 1909 amounted to 35 tons (7,685*l.*), against 20 tons (3,979*l.*) in 1908 and 30 tons (6,720*l.*) in 1907. The destinations in 1909 (according to the British Consul at Cartagena) were as follows: U.S.A., 20½ tons; United Kingdom, 2½ tons; Germany, 12 tons; and France, ½ ton.

JALAP.—In the absence of demand the tendency continues downwards, and bids for new crop to arrive are invited at from 1*s.* to 1*s.* 1*d.* per lb. for 7 to 10 per cent. Spot market is nominal at 1*s.* 7*d.* for 10 per cent.

JUNIPER-BERRY OIL.—Foreign distilled B.P. is offered at the cheaper rate of 2*s.* 9*d.* per lb. net. The crop has been plentiful this season.

LAVENDER OIL.—The reduction in stocks of English keeps the price of genuine firm at 30*s.* per lb. net.

LEMON OIL is unaltered, agents offering from 3*s.* 1*d.* to 3*s.* 3*d.* per lb. c.i.f., according to brand.

LIME JUICE.—Concentrated West Indian is firm at 18*s.* 2*s.* 6*d.* Raw West Indian is quiet at 1*s.* to 1*s.* 1*d.* per gal.

LIME OIL.—West Indian distilled is steady at from 1*s.* 2*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*, and hand-pressed 5*s.* 6*d.* per lb.

LINSEED is firmer; good Dutch is quoted 74*s.*, and ordinary to good Morocco 72*s.* 6*d.* to 75*s.* per quarter.

LINSEED OIL is dearer, spot closing at 42*s.* 3*d.* in pipes and 42*s.* 6*d.* in barrels.

MACE.—Steady for West Indian, 57 packages of which sold at from 2*s.* to 2*s.* 2*d.* for ordinary to fair, and 2*s.* 3*d.* to 2*s.* 5*d.* for good to fine.

MENTHOL.—Business has not yet commenced, but the firm tone is maintained, holders asking 11*s.* 9*d.* for Kobayashi on spot. To arrive there are second-hand sellers of Suzuki for December shipment at 11*s.* c.i.f., and from France an offer of this brand comes at 11*s.* 3*d.* c.i.f. The *Borneo* has brought 30 cases and 15 in transit, these being for delivery against contract.

OPUM.—Our Smyrna cable announces further business on American account at unaltered rates, and the fact that 100 cases have been sold at a period of general quietness, when there is some inducement to give way, is looked as a point in favour of continued firm prices. The London spot price of druggists' remains at from 13*s.* 6*d.* to 14*s.* Malatia has been sold at 16*s.* 6*d.* per lb. c.i.f., and for good Tokat the extreme figure of 18*s.* is asked, a bid of 17*s.* 3*d.* having been refused. Persian is still quoted at from 14*s.* 6*d.* to 15*s.* 6*d.* spot, and to arrive 15*s.* per lb., landed terms, has been paid. The *Sandown*, from

Bushire, has brought 22 cases to London, and the stock of Persian is now about 150 cases. Writing on December 22, a Smyrna correspondent states that the sales amounted to about 70 cases for the United States at 12½ piastres for Karahissar, or equal to 13*s.* 6*d.* per lb. c.i.f. European ports. Last week 50 cases of inferior qualities (t.q. with rejections) were sold for export at 108 to 118 piastres, which corresponds to a higher price than the actual market quotation. Market closes with sellers present, and if buyers hold off next week it is probable that a slight fall will take place. The arrivals amount to 4,150 cases, against 1,820 cases last year.

PEPPERMINT OIL.—Dearer. Several of the leading agents have received cables from their principals announcing an advance of from 6*d.* to 9*d.* per lb. in Wayne County tin oil, current quotations being from 10*s.* 1*d.* to 10*s.* 3*d.* per lb. landed terms, for good brands. Although these prices have not yet been paid, it is quite anticipated they will be when business is fully resumed, and holders are content to wait. H.G.H. is now quoted at from 12*s.* 9*d.* to 13*s.* London terms. In Japanese dementholised oil sales amounting to 300 cases are reported, chiefly to the Continent, for February-March shipment, at from 5*s.* 9½*d.* to 5*s.* 10½*d.* per lb. c.i.f., and at the close there are sellers at 5*s.* 10½*d.*, in combination with menthol at 11*s.* 3½*d.* c.i.f.

PIMENTO.—At auction 79 bags fair were bought in at 2½*d.*

QUICKSILVER.—A large business is reported to have been done from first-hands at 7*l.* 10*s.* per bottle, after which the price was fixed at 8*l.*; second-hands quote 7*l.* 12*s.*

QUININE.—Business has not yet opened in this chemical, prices being unaltered from second-hands at 6½*d.* for the usual brands of German sulphate in bulk, 6½*d.* for Amsterdam, and 6*d.* for Java. At the auction of quinine held at Amsterdam on December 30, 1,417½ kilos. Ed. II. (50,000 oz.) offered, of which 708½ kilos. (35,000 oz.) sold at 10.20*fl.* per kilo., being exactly the same price as paid at the previous auction. The next sale will be held on January 13, and will consist of 1,417½ kilos. Ed. II.

The landings in London during December were *nil*, and the deliveries 83,600 oz., leaving a stock on December 1910 of 3,687,376 oz., against 3,281,936 oz. in 1909.

RUBBER.—At the auctions, which opened on Tuesday and concluded Thursday, about 350 tons plantation were offered, and practically all sold at a general decline of from 5*d.* to 8*d.* per lb. The private market has been dull and unsettled, fine hard Para closing at 5*s.* 2½*d.* per lb. The increased visible supplies have contributed to the weakness of the market.

SAFFRON remains very firm on the basis of 44*s.* per lb. net for finest Valencia. The tendency is still upwards.

SANDALWOOD OIL.—Although firm, quotations for English distilled from E.I. wood show the wide variation of from 9*s.* 6*d.* to 11*s.* per lb.

SANTONIN.—The agents for the B. & S. brand received an intimation from their principals on January 2 of an advance of 2*s.* 3*d.* per lb., which now makes the price of 2 cwt. lots in one delivery, 41*s.* 6*d.*; 1 cwt., 42*s.* 6*d.*; 56 lb., 43*s.* 6*d.*; 28 lb., 44*s.* 6*d.*; and less, 45*s.* 6*d.* per lb. net. This advance has not yet been announced by other agents, but it is expected to be confirmed almost immediately. Considering that the demand on this market has been slack lately, the advance comes as a surprise, but as the monopoly has no outside competition whatever they can readily dictate prices.

SENEGA sells slowly on the spot at from 1*s.* 11*d.* to 2*s.* per lb. net, and to arrive, business has lately been done at 1*s.* 9½*d.* c.i.f. in ton lots.

SHELLAC, after being easier, closes steadier, with small sales on the basis of 75*s.* to 76*s.* for fair TN orange. Futures are higher, the sales including 1,000 cases January delivery at 74*s.*, March at 75*s.* to 77*s.*, and May at 76*s.* to 77*s.*

TARTARIC ACID is firm at 1*s.* 2½*d.* for English from makers, 1*s.* 0½*d.* for prompt foreign, and 1*s.* 1*d.* for forward.

TURPENTINE has advanced about 7½*d.* per cwt., American closing on the spot at 56*s.* 1½*d.* and at 56*s.* 10½*d.* for February-April delivery.



Memoranda for Correspondents.

All communications must be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers, otherwise they cannot be dealt with. Queries by subscribers on dispensing, legal, and miscellaneous subjects connected with the business are replied to in these columns if they are considered to be of general interest. Letters submitted for publication (if suitable) should be written on one side of the paper only. Their publication in "The Chemist and Druggist" does not imply Editorial agreement with the opinions expressed.

Spirit of Wine and Aqua Vitæ.

SIR,—“Xrayser II,” in his “Observations and Reflections,” asks who suggested the new name of Spirit of Wine. I have a copy of an Act passed in the twelfth year of the reign of Charles II. for the imposition of duties upon beer, ale, and other liquids, for the increasing of his Majesty's revenue during his life. In this Act the names Aqua Vitæ and Spirit of Wine are applied to two different kinds of spirit, as you will see by the enclosed copy of the duties imposed, taken from the Act. I should imagine that the Excise men having to tax both aqua vitæ and also the spirit made from wine, would constantly use the name Spirit of Wine to distinguish it from the aqua vitæ, which, you will notice, was taxed at a lower rate, and by this means it would come into general use.

Yours truly,

U. AYLMEYER COATES.

Burnley.

The extract sent by Mr. Coates is as follows:

“For every Barrel of Beer or Ale, above Six shillings the Barrel, brewed by the common Brewer, or any other person or persons who doth or shall sell or tap out Beer or Ale publicly or privately, to be paid by the common Brewer, or by such other person or persons respectively, and so proportionably for a greater or lesser quantity, One shilling three pence, 1s. 3d.

“For every Barrel of Six shillings Beer or Ale, or under, brewed by the common Brewer, or any other person or persons who doth or shall sell or tap out such Beer or Ale publicly or privately, to be paid by the said common Brewer, or by such other person or persons respectively as aforesaid, and so proportionably for a greater or lesser quantity, Three pence, 3d.

“For all Syder and Perry made and sold by Retail, upon every Hogshead, to be paid by the Retailer thereof, and so proportionably for a greater or lesser measure, One shilling three pence, 1s. 3d.

“For all Methueglin or Mead sold, whether by Retail or otherwise, to be paid by the Maker thereof upon every Gallon, One halfpenny, ½d.

“For every Barrel of Beer, commonly called Vinegar-Beer, brewed by any common Brewer, or in any common Brew-house, Sixpence, 6d.

“For every Gallon of Strong-water or Aqua-vitæ made and sold, to be paid by the Maker thereof, One penny, 1d.

“For every Barrel of Beer or Ale, imported from beyond the Seas, Three shillings, 3s.

“For every ton of Syder or Perry imported from beyond the Seas, and so proportionably for a greater or lesser quantity, Five shillings, 5s.

“For every Gallon of Spirits made of any kind of Wine or Syder imported, Two-pence, 2d.

“For every Gallon of Strong-water perfectly made, imported from beyond the Seas, Four pence, 4d.

“For every Gallon of Coffee made and sold, to be paid by the Maker, Four pence, 4d.

“For every Gallon of Chocolate, Sherbet and Tea, made and sold, to be paid by the Maker thereof, Eight pence, 8d.”

[This is interesting, especially as it shows that temperance beverages were more heavily taxed than intoxicating liquors. —EDITOR, C. & D.]

The Sympathetic Cure of Wounds.

SIR,—In reading “Xrayser's” remarks on this subject I cannot see how the two instances cited by him are parallel. In the one a nurse keeps the instrument which has inflicted a flesh wound bright and clean, believing that if it rusted the wound made by it would not heal. This, I agree, is absurd. But the other case of the rustics

who hold the belief that if a dog bites someone and subsequently takes rabies the person bitten will also contract the disease is not quite the same. There is always some reason for a universally credited belief of this sort. The belief is virtually the outcome of continued observation. In these days we hear much about bacilli. Is it not reasonable to suppose that rabies is a disease transmitted from one generation of dogs to another by a bacillus, and though the bacillus can lie dormant through one or more generations, an animal apparently quite healthy may be able to transmit the hereditary disease by inoculation? Suppose a man be bitten by such a dog, and both are exposed to conditions favourable for the growth of the bacillus, the time of incubation would probably be the same in both cases, and, consequently, the manifestations of the disease. Of course shooting the dog serves no good purpose further than the removal of a menace to the public safety; but in recent years most people are careful to have a dog-bite cauterised or treated with some antiseptic, whereas formerly they took no such precaution. This, surely, has its influence on the spread of the disease. It is no mental advancement to repudiate an idea simply because somebody else says it is foolish and superstitious. “There was always water where the stirkie drowned, he was not lying on a dry hillock,” so says our Scottish proverb, and there is some reason for this belief. The foregoing are mine.

Yours truly,

Staxigoe, Caithness.

WALTER SUTHERLAND.

A Dental Boast.

SIR,—The enclosed circular, which is being distributed locally, may interest those of your readers who practise dentistry, particularly as the remarks appear to be made warning the public against chemist-dentists. This public-spirited gentleman displays a large brass plate with his name engraved thereon. I have failed to trace this name on the Register of Dentists, although his effusion would imply that he is a man “who has paid fabulous fees, etc.,” in obtaining his qualification!

Yours faithfully,

A. W. P. (126/34.)

[The chief part of the circular is as follows (we make no attempt to correct the grammatical errors):

“It is also my desire for this letter to be a warning and an appeal to the public to beware and guard against quacks and so-called teeth experts with high-sounding titles, who will place in your letter-box an illustrated pamphlet pertaining to the same. These quacks, who no doubt originally were chemists, as I believe the public to be fully conscious. Some years ago an Act of Parliament was passed to permit all who had been in practice previously to register themselves as dentists on the payment of a small fee, and so butchers, blacksmiths, barbers, and chemists became registered dentists. I think the public will agree with me that it is most disgraceful for men who have paid fabulous fees for their tuition and sacrificed their lives for their profession should be overruled by quack advertisements.”

We also have failed to find the name of the advertiser in the “Dentists' Register,” but it should be added that he does not claim to be a dentist.—EDITOR C. & D.]

Esperanto and Foreign Languages.

SIR,—I have read with interest “Xrayser II's” valuable observations regarding Esperanto, but I consider his views are based on a fundamental misunderstanding. Esperanto is not intended to replace any language (either as “an instrument of culture” or otherwise); it is, and always has been, announced as an auxiliary tongue. Try to imagine for one moment that the educated classes—the better-class business men—all the world over knew Esperanto, just as (outside pure Anglo-Saxondom) educated men and business men of every civilised nation understand the metric system. Far be it from me to run down French: I owe the only chance I ever had in business to my knowledge of foreign tongues. Had I remained in the tight little island I should have loftily said, “With French I can travel all over Europe, with English all over three other continents,” and been earning possibly 2l. per week. But I have learnt, outside France and Great Britain, how limited are the capabilities even of these two ideally cosmopolitan languages. In Spain, Italy, or Germany I can take or discuss measurements with my metre, and if all my business friends

knew Esperanto as they know decimals I should be spared much trouble. It is curious that great exporting countries like the United Kingdom and the United States do not grasp that with a universal *auxiliary* language and a universally understood system of weights and measures they could invade hundreds of markets now monopolised by the decimal and polyglot German, or, at any rate, deprive him of many of his advantages. France is not considered by any means enterprising in a commercial sense, yet one finds French pharmaceutical proprietaries selling in all the Latin countries. Is there any good and sufficient reason for this, outside the fact that at present French is a sort of Esperanto (or international *auxiliary* language) all over South America and all through the Peninsula, and that Spanish comes as easy to your educated Frenchman as Esperanto comes to the man of every nation?

Yours truly,

ANGLO-PARISIAN. (152/90.)

Subscribers' Symposium.

For questions, answers, incidents, and interchange of opinions among "C. & D." readers.

Appreciation.

Your annual present of the *Diary* is bigger, better, and brighter than its predecessors; and the daily axioms cannot fail being instructive and edifying to both old and young throughout the "varsal world."—*R. G. M.*

Salad-dressing.

F. A. (New Zealand) (144/13), referring to the correspondence which has taken place in the *C. & D.* on this subject, writes: The following is an excellent recipe:

Powder up the yolk of hard-boiled egg and mix thoroughly with half a mustardspoonful of dry mustard (more or less to taste) and a teaspoonful of sugar (also more or less to taste), then add a tablespoonful of white vinegar, and, lastly, enough cream to make a small teacupful of dressing.

Prescribing Chemists.

Mr. Edwin Fowler (Hull) informs us that he wrote to the "London Weekly Times" in reply to comments by that paper on chemists' prescribing, but his letter was not published, and he sends us a copy of it. His remedies for the present state of affairs are "either give chemists the work they are trained to do—i.e., the dispensing of medical prescriptions as in other countries—or make them more competent to prescribe for minor ailments in their own shops, and so take the place of the old apothecaries."

Business Letters.

As a commentary on paragraph four, p. 966, of the *C. & D.* of December 31, I enclose letter received from a wholesale house, the essential part of which is as follows:

"We find that owing to the Christmas and New Year's holidays our travellers' journeys are consequently a bit disarranged, and unfortunately will not be able to call upon you as usual this month. We therefore take the liberty of requesting the favour of any commands you can place our way by post, which, we need hardly say, will command our very best and careful attention. With many thanks for past favours."

Can you imagine anything more atrocious in the way of English composition?—*J. C.* (149/62.)

Co-operative Prices.

Recently in a Scots town a pharmacist was enabled to demonstrate, to his own satisfaction at least, that the "Store" (i.e., co-operative store) is sometimes not such a profitable institution to deal with as many people imagine. A customer noticed a small bottle, ticketed 4½d., on the counter. "Why, I pay 6d. for that at the 'Store'!" ejaculated his patron. "But there's the dividend, of course." The chemist explained that if she really had to pay the higher price the transaction showed a loss, as the rebate, so to speak, only amounted to 20 per cent. of that sum, while his price was a reduction of 25 per cent. "Now, I should have gone one better," he said to his assistant afterwards; "if I had been a party politician I might have proved that she would pay our rivals 33½ per cent. more!"—*Hamish Dhu.*

Dispensing Notes.

This section is for the discussion and solution of dispensing problems and prescriptions received by "C. & D." readers. We are always pleased to receive the opinions of readers for publication. "The Art of Dispensing" ("C. & D." Office, 6s.) is the standard book of reference on this subject.

A Quinine-and-Strychnine Mixture.

The following prescription was discussed in our issue of December 24, 1910:

Quininae hydrochloridi	...	...	gr. v.
Liquor strychninae	...	...	m v.
Ammon. bromidi	...	...	gr. x.
Ext. digitalis liq. (P., D. & Co.)	...	...	m j.
Tinct. aurantii	...	...	m x.
Aquam ad	...	...	3j.

Mitte 3viii.

The mixture crystallised all over the bottle, throwing out the digitalis, etc., and a deposit. We found the crystals to be a salt of quinine, probably either hydrobromide or hydrochloride, or a mixture of both. The deposit contained no strychnine. *Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co.* have since experimented with the mixture and the sample of their extract of digitalis sent by our correspondent, in order to see if the crystallisation is in any way due to the use of the extract, and they send us the following notes:

"We think that the reason of the precipitation appears to be a certain amount of salting-out that takes place. In this the extractive matter of the fluid extract of digitalis deposits in little clumps which act as a nidus on which is deposited the quinine hydrochloride, or a compound of bromide and hydrochloride. We have tested various fluid extracts of digitalis, and they have all behaved in exactly the same way. We also find in the course of our experiments that if the mixture is put together in one way and violently shaken, a precipitation of quinine salt at once results. As an alternative method, and one that might be more satisfactory than the addition of dilute hydrobromic acid, the prescription may be dispensed as follows:

Dissolve the quinine hydrochloride in two-thirds of the water. Add the tincture of orange-peel and fluid extract of digitalis, previously mixed, then add the ammonium bromide, dissolved in the remainder of the water, shaking gently, not violently, to dissolve the precipitate formed. Add the liquor strychninae last of all.

Dispensed as indicated, and using the sample of fluid extract sent in by the *C. & D.* correspondent, a mixture was produced which did not precipitate, and which, though cloudy, was homogeneous. The addition of the dilute hydrobromic acid, as suggested in the *C. & D.*, December 24, prevents precipitation altogether, no matter how the mixture is dispensed, and furthermore a clearer product is obtained."

Lecithin (151/22).—It is a waste of your time and ours to write without giving us your name, and "Oxford Street, W.," is no address for an anonymous person. Moreover, reference to "The Art of Dispensing" might have solved your "vexed questions."

Legal Queries.

Consult the Legal Advice Section of "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1911, p. 435, before writing about your difficulty.

Erratum.—In reply to "Linguist," *C. & D.*, December 31, 1910, p. 976, for "lessor" read "lessee."

Ilex (150/18).—An apprenticeship terminates when the apprentice comes of age, but the apprentice may continue the service if he so desires.

Silver (98/14).—Pills composed of tar and liquorice powder are not an entire drug, and are subject to medicine-stamp duty if in any way recommended for human ailments or otherwise made liable.

G. W. B. (150/9).—(1) On or about the date which the empties were despatched by you, and the date on which the railway company delivered them, should suffice to recover the price of the breakages. The railway company's objection to an uncertain date is in the nature of a quibble. (2) Hypodermic tablets of morphine gr. ¼ are in Part I. of the Poison Schedule, as they contain more than 1 per cent. of the alkaloid.

C

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We do not as a rule repeat information given in this section during the past twelve months. When references are given to past issues, these should be consulted. Back numbers for the past five years can generally be obtained from our office at the published prices. We do not undertake to analyse and report upon proprietary articles.

Formalin (146/26).—You will find by reference to the following issues of the *C. & D.* many hints in regard to the PURCHASE OF A BUSINESS. You should read the articles, as they will be of distinct service to you: January 26, 1907, p. 151; September 7, 1907, p. 410; January 25, 1908, p. 151; March 28, 1908, p. 503; February 20, 1909, p. 314; and August 21, 1909, p. 348.

Manna (150/11).—No date for the publication of the new British Pharmacopœia has yet been fixed; indeed, the work of revision has not yet been completed. After completion of the revision it generally takes a year or more to print the book.

F. W. B. (150/60), writing in regard to our 1911 DIARY COMPETITION, says: "A point which I wish to be sure upon is this. Suppose there are, say, two or three whole-page advertisements of the same firm, each page being so attractive as to make it impossible to choose one more than another, will it be permitted to quote the series in answer to the first question on Card 1? Perhaps there are others who have experienced the same difficulty in making their choice on account of the large number of advertisements which consist of two, three, or more pages. This is quite apart from those pages which are made up of two halves or four quarter-page advertisements." [This refers to Question 1, "What page amongst the *Diary* advertisements do you like best?" One page only should be specified in the reply. When a series of pages by one advertiser please a competitor so highly as to dictate a vote, that may be given in reply to Questions 2 or 3—viz., "Which is the most artistic advertisement in the *Diary*?" "Which is the best business-producing advertisement in the *Diary*?" These questions were framed partly to meet your difficulty.]

G. W. B. (116/33).—Thanks for your suggestion, which we have adopted.

H. J. C. (25/23).—(1) **HARDENING WATER FOR BREWING.**—The typical water for pale ales may be taken to have the following composition: calcium sulphate, 60; magnesium sulphate, 4; calcium and magnesium carbonates, 20; sodium chloride, 4; total mineral salts, 94, expressed in grains per gallon. If magnesium sulphate is already present in too large a quantity its proportion can be reduced by adding calcium chloride. For mild ales, gypsum and kainite may be added to the brewing-water. The salts should be added to the sparging-water as well as to the mashing-liquor. From an analysis of the brewing-water it is easy to adjust the quantities of salts to make the typical water. One ounce of gypsum (calcium sulphate) per barrel is approximately 5 grains per gal. Such mixtures as the following (for pale ale) result from the study of the natural water:

Calcium sulphate	...	...	5 oz.
Magnesium sulphate	...	...	1½ oz.
Sodium chloride	...	...	½ oz.
Calcium chloride	...	...	2 oz.

This quantity for each barrel.

For stouts the following is a typical mixture of salts:

Kainite	...	...	3-4 oz.
Calcium-chloride solution	...	...	1½ oz.
Sodium chloride	...	...	2 oz.

The calcium chloride is supplied as a saturated solution of sp. gr. 1.33, of which 1 oz. to a barrel is equivalent to 10 grains per gal. of the anhydrous salt. (2) **YEAST-FOODS.**—The nutriment required by yeast consists of sugar (such as dextrose), a nitrogenous constituent (such as asparagine), and inorganic elements (such as potassium phosphate, magnesium sulphate, and calcium sulphate). The sulphates supply the sulphur which is essential to the growth of yeast. Various mixtures based on the above facts are sold as yeast-foods, one authority recommending peptonised malt combs or bean-flour. (3) **ANTISEPTICS USED IN BREWING.**—In summer antiseptics are added to beer at the time of racking—e.g., calcium bisulphite (½ pint per barrel) or potassium metabisulphite. For washing vats formalin diluted with thirty parts of water is employed, and of weaker strength for disinfecting fermenting-room floors. (4) **HOP-SUBSTITUTES.**—When hops are dear various substitutes are employed, the most usual being chiretta, quassia, gentian, and chamomile-flowers. It is considered that 1 lb. of either of these is

equivalent to 14 lb. of hops. (5) **OTHER SUBSTANCES REQUIRED BY BREWERS** include sulphurous acid for soaking the isinglass for finings; catechu, sometimes added to hasten the clearing of the finished beer; malt substitutes, such as invert sugar, glucose, and dextrin-maltose; colourings, such as caramel. (6) **BOOKS ON BREWING.**—You will find the following useful; Thatcher's "Treatise on Practical Brewing and Malting" ("County Brewers' Gazette," 21s. 6d.); Sykes and Ling, "Principles and Practice of Brewing" (Griffin & Co.); Wright's "Handy-book for Brewers" (Lockwood).

A. T. B. (140/63).—**PLATE-POWDER.**—We cannot undertake to examine the plate-powder you send as to its quality. The chief points in judging such a powder are its freedom from grit and the absence of mercurial powder. Some of the modern powders contain silver cyanide.

Rex (142/37).—If the bottle does not contain spirit of turpentine it is, of course, illegal to sell it as such. Have you reason to believe that the contents are not as stated?

G. W. & S. (134/65).—**SOUP-FLAVOURINGS.**—The chief flavour of the soups is onion; we are not aware that essences are added to flavour dried soups.

ALBUMEN-POWDERS FOR CHILDREN.—**C. S. A.** (29/12) suggests that this refers to Wulfin's Albulactin or some similar preparation.

Ebona (141/35) asks: "What is rope oil as used by rope-makers?" Will our readers please make suggestions?

R. M. H. W. (84/10).—(1) There does not seem to be any readily applied method of decolorising turpentine that has become contaminated with iron. Redistillation is needed. (2) **THYMOL SOLUTION** refers to the following:

Thymol	...	...	...	5j.
Rectified spirit	...	...	...	3iiss.
Glycerin	...	...	...	3iiss.
Water	...	...	...	Ovj.

Make a solution.

(3) **THYMOL WATER**, which is also known as liquor thymol, is a saturated solution of thymol in water (gr. j. in 4 oz. is generally used). Neither thymol solution nor thymol water should be employed alone on the internal mucous surfaces, as pain is caused by the use of non-isotonic solutions. The addition of a little sodium chloride is all that is necessary to overcome this difficulty.

G. W. G. (150/43).—**OBESITY-REDUCING SOAP** is medicated by the addition of extract of ox-gall. We cannot say whether the soap answers the purpose of reducing obesity; but you could readily mix some transparent soap with ox-gall and see if your customer will give it a trial.

Boiler (130/45).—**SCALE-REMOVING POWDER.**—This we believe to be a preventive of boiler-incrustation rather than a solvent of the scale. It seems to consist of sodium hydrate and another sodium salt, probably tribasic sodium phosphate.

Retrospect of Fifty Years* Ago.

Reprinted from "The Chemist and Druggist," January 15, 1861.

The paragraphs inserted under this heading are intended to recall important and interesting events of the past, as well as to afford contrasts with what is happening now.

To Our Readers.

In issuing this, the first number of our new volume, we may be permitted to call the attention of our readers to the gratifying fact that not only have the improvements promised in our last been fully carried out, but others, of no less importance, have been initiated. In proof of this we need simply refer to the tasteful emblematic illustrations which figure as headings to the several departments of the Journal. Our readers may, moreover, rest assured that we by no means wish them to accept these improvements as a full and final settlement of our account of promises, but simply as an earnest of the sincerity of our desire to make THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST the first and foremost publication of the day in every branch, practical as well as theoretical, which it embraces, and to render it equally useful and interesting to the chemist, the pharmacist, the druggist, and the manufacturer. No trouble or expense shall be spared on our part to realise this programme to the fullest extent; and so, whilst looking back with honest pride to the past, we trust we are justified also in looking forward with hopeful confidence to the future.

The L.P.S.I. Examination.

Litmus (89/5) attended at Lower Mount Street, Dublin, on December 12, at 10.30 A.M., where he found a number of brother pills also awaiting the roll-call. He continues:

Having had a number assigned to me, I sat down at a desk, feeling anything but normal, and was handed a paper on *material medica* and botany for which two hours was allowed. After this an interval for lunch, and on resuming I had one and a half hour for a paper on chemistry; after that two hours at a paper on pharmacy finished the first day. The following morning I attended for

PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY,

and as this was my best subject, I was not uneasy. The salt turned out to be antimony oxalate, a rather peculiar combination, but one which I had no difficulty in confirming. The B.P. substance proved to be acetanilide, and for volumetric I had a solution of ferrous sulphate to estimate with potassium bichromate.

In the afternoon, during

PRACTICAL PHARMACY,

in common with many others, I found want of time to be a stumbling-block, only one and a half hour being allowed for four prescriptions.

The paper was as follows:

Liq. calcis sacch. ($\frac{1}{2}$ B.P. strength) \bar{v} viij.

Sig.: sij. ex lacte bis in die.

Resorcin.	...	...	...	...	gr. 30
Glycerini	...	...	...	...	5ss.
Adipis lane hyd.	...	...	...	...	7iss.
Paraf. mollis	...	...	...	...	5v.

M. Ft. ung. Applic. omne nocte.

Ferri phos.	...	...	...	...	gr. xij.
Quin. sulph.	...	...	...	...	gr. xij.
Strychninae	...	...	...	...	gr. $\frac{1}{2}$
Acid. phosph. syr.	...	...	...	...	℥xij.

M. Ft. pil. Divid. in pil. xij.

Sig.: j. ter in die.

Emp. opii (5-in. diameter). Supra alutam.

I started the liq. calcis sacch. first, and then drew the examiner's attention to the fact that it should stand for several hours before decantation. He replied that one and a half hour would have to do in this case. In the ointment the resorcin was rubbed down with the lanoline and paraf. molle before adding the glycerin. The pills I had never made before, so I first drew the examiner's attention to the small dose of strychnine, and asked if $\frac{1}{2}$ grain in each pill was not intended. I was told to make up the prescription as written, so accordingly 1 grain of strychnine was triturated with 35 grains of milk sugar, and 1 grain of this trituration mixed with the iron phosphate and quinine sulphate. I then added the phosphoric acid, which made a thin paste, so I went to search for kaolin to stiffen the mass. After a few minutes' fruitless search I returned to find the mass had stiffened itself and was ready for rolling out. This I did quickly and finished off twelve lovely pills; I heard afterwards that someone else had the same set to make and waited too long, with the result that the mass hardened into what one would have thought was a stone. I had fifteen minutes left for the plaster, and so I melted the emp. opii in an evaporating-dish while the iron was heating. By the time the leather and shape were cut the plaster was ready. I spread it and finished it off. After handing it in I suddenly noticed I had made it 5 in. square instead of a circle, so I was hauled over the coals. I said that I saw I was wrong, but had blundered in my hurry. On the third day came the oral grueling. Dr. Bronté, in

CHEMISTRY,

after putting me at ease with some conversation, asked me a few questions on mercuric chloride, silver nitrate, and the oxides of nitrogen. I then went to Dr. Alsom for

MATERIA MEDICA AND BOTANY.

Here I was shown red-cinchona bark, pimento-berries, podophyllum-rhizome, senega-root, quassia, and lobelia, also some false cascara and scammonium, and was asked some questions about them. I then had golden rod, yarrow, aconite, belladonna, and some other herbs to put in their natural orders. Finally, some questions about fruits and a longitudinal section through a monocotyledon under the microscope. After a wait of fifteen minutes I was called by Mr. Allen for

PHARMACY.

First I was given a number of illegible scripts to decipher, and got over them better than I expected; then a number of B.P. preparations to recognise and give mode of preparing, strength, dose, etc. These were tr. camph. co., pulv. glycyrrh. co., vin. colchici, vin. antim., lin. camph. ammon., tr. opii,

sp. amm. aromat., and two that I did not know—ferri carb. sacch. and butyl chloral hydrate. After writing another script in full Latin I was told that I had finished. I went down and left sixpence for a telegram, and then made my way to the station and home, where I found the good news awaiting me that I had passed with honours.

COMING EVENTS.

This section of the "C. & D." is reserved for advance notices of meetings or other events which are sent to the Editor by Wednesday of the week before the meetings, etc., occur.

Tuesday, January 10.

Royal Institution of Great Britain, Albemarle Street, Piccadilly, London, W., at 3 P.M. Prof. Silvanus P. Thompson, lecture on "Reproduction of Sound."

Bradford Chemists' Association, Royal Hotel, at 9 P.M. Monthly business meeting.

Oldham Pharmaceutical Association, Café Monico, Union Street, at 7.30 P.M. Mr. J. Rennie on "Tablets and all about them."

Wednesday, January 11.

Manchester Pharmaceutical Association, Chemical Club, Victoria Hotel, at 7.30 P.M. Mr. Gerald Pinchbeck on "Synthetic Perfumes and Flavours."

Borough Polytechnic Institute, Borough Road, London, S.E., at 7.30 P.M. A course commences on the "Chemical Technology of the Essential Oils," by Mr. C. T. Bennett, B.Sc., F.I.C., Ph.C. The fees are: lectures only, 5s.; including practical work, 10s.

Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society. Professor C. J. Patten, D.Sc., on "Instantaneous Telephotography of Birds."

Newcastle-on-Tyne Pharmacists' Association, Hôtel Métropole, at 8 P.M. Discussion on "Trade Matters," introduced by Mr. R. Wright.

Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association, 36 York Place, Edinburgh, at 9.15 P.M. Communications by Messrs. J. D. Watson, J. Hamilton, and Geo. Elliot.

Cardiff Pharmaceutical Association, Angel Hotel, at 3 P.M. Discussion on "Pharmaceutical Training," opened by Mr. F. Lea.

Western Pharmacists' Association, York Rooms, Frascati's Restaurant, Oxford Street, London, W., at 7.30 P.M. Annual Cinderella dance. Tickets (5s. each, two 9s., including supper) from Mr. C. T. Allen, 20 High Road, Kilburn, N.W.

Croydon Pharmacists' Association, Greyhound Hotel, at 8 P.M. Lantern lecture by representative of Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co. on "How and Why in Photography."

Nottingham Pharmaceutical Association, George Hotel, at 8 P.M. Social meeting.

Thursday, January 12.

Liverpool Chemists' Association, Royal Institution, Colquitt Street, at 8 P.M. Mr. H. B. Morgan, Ph.C., "Notes from a Pharmacist's Life during Seven and a-half Years' Work in Mid-China."

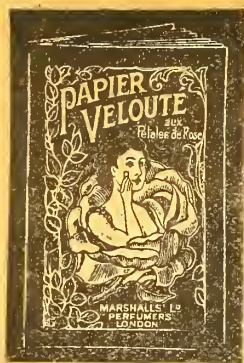
West Ham Association of Pharmacists, Earlam Hall, Forest Gate, London, E., at 3 P.M. Business-meeting.

THE ANNUAL DINNER of the Halifax Chemists' Association will be held on February 2 at the Old Cock Hotel, at 6 P.M. Tickets (3s. 6d. each) from Mr. R. V. Sutcliffe, 64 King's Cross, Halifax.

THE CHEMISTS' ANNUAL BALL (FORTY-FIFTH) will be held at the Whitehall Rooms, Hôtel Métropole, London, W., on January 13. Tickets (lady's, 12s. 6d.; gentleman's, 17s. 6d., including supper and wine) from Mr. Alan Francis, 22 to 30 Graham Street, City Road, London, N.

DINNER to MR. GLYN-JONES, M.P.—The friends in pharmacy and the drug-trade of Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, M.P., have invited him to dinner at the Trocadero Restaurant on Thursday evening, January 26, at 7 for 7.30. Tickets (6s. each, without wine) can be obtained from Mr. John C. Umney, F.C.S., 48 Southwark Street, London, S.E.

AN artificial method of colouring peas which has been recently introduced from Germany is to shake the peas with a solution of chlorophyll containing dextrin. This is less objectionable than copper sulphate, which is frequently employed for the purpose.



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